FRIDAY
April 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
34 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 98

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

iPhone 16

Built for Apple Intelligence.

Apple Intelligence available now in English.

Go to IndiaiStore.com to find Apple Authorised stores near you.

Starting at an Exchange Effective Price of ₹35900* with credit cards of

AXIS BANK | ICICI Bank | kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank

	iPhone 16 Pro	iPhone 16	iPhone 16e
MRP (Incl. of all taxes) (128GB, 1N)	₹119900.00	₹79900.00	₹59900.00
Instant Store Discount	₹7000.00	₹5000.00	-
Bank Cashback	₹3000.00	₹4000.00	₹6000.00
Exchange value of your old phone	₹33000.00	₹20000.00	₹13000.00
Exchange bonus (up to)	₹8000.00	₹8000.00	₹5000.00
Exchange Effective Price*	**₹68900.00**	**₹42900.00**	**₹35900.00**

INDIA iSTORE

INGRAM MICRO | Redington

*Terms and conditions apply.
The illustrative Exchange Effective price of ₹35900.00 is calculated on MRP ₹59900.00 (incl. of all taxes) of iPhone 16e, 128 GB, (15.40 cm, 1 N), and is reduced by ₹6000.00 Instant Cashback available on Axis Bank Credit Card, ICICI Bank Credit Card, Kotak Mahindra Bank Credit Card & on ICICI Bank Debit Card (EMI Only) and further reduced by exchange value of ₹13000.00 of iPhone 12, 128 GB (15.40 cm, 1 N) in a good working condition along with ₹5000.00 Exchange Bonus. Similarly, the illustrative Exchange Effective price shown in the advertisement for iPhone 16 Pro is based on the exchange value of ₹33000.00 of iPhone 13 Pro, 128 GB (15.40 cm, 1 N) in good working condition, and for iPhone 16, illustrative Exchange Effective price is based on the exchange value of ₹20000.00 of iPhone 13, 128 GB (15.40 cm, 1 N), in good working condition respectively. The Instant Cashback offer of up to ₹6000.00 is valid exclusively on Axis Bank Credit Card, ICICI Bank Credit Card & Kotak Mahindra Bank Credit Card & on ICICI Bank Debit Card (EMI Only). The applicable Instant Cashback offer is valid for transactions made using Brand EMI option on Pine Labs and Paytm terminals and applicable on select online merchants via Pine Labs Payment Gateway. No Cost EMI is applicable on Axis Bank Credit Card, ICICI Bank Credit Card & Kotak Mahindra Bank Credit Card & on ICICI Bank Debit Card EMI transactions on 6 months tenure only. Low-Cost EMI is also available on tenures greater than 6 months. Processing fee and GST on interest component applicable as per Bank's terms and conditions. The Exchange Bonus of up to ₹8000.00 is exclusively provided by the Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers Cashify and Servify at select participating stores in association with participating resellers at their sole discretion. Exchange Bonus is valid only for transactions involving Trade-in of customer's eligible old devices valued at least ₹3000.00 or above. Customer's eligible old devices valued between ₹3000.00 and ₹10000.00 will receive an Exchange Bonus of ₹3000.00 and customer's eligible devices valued between ₹10001.00 and ₹15000.00 will receive an Exchange Bonus of ₹5000.00 and customer's eligible devices valued above ₹15000.00 will receive an Exchange Bonus of ₹8000.00. The Exchange Bonus and Trade-in value will be passed on as a credit or discount in the customer's invoice. Exchange Bonus offer can be clubbed with Cards Instant Cashback or Consumer Loans Offer. Customer's eligible old device trade-in value as diagnosed and assessed by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will be the final offer. Any other T&Cs as specified by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will apply. Goods and Services Tax will be applicable on processing fee, and foreclosure charges, as applicable. Customer may be required to enter into separate agreements or arrangements (by whatever name called) with the financier to avail or use the EMI facility. Customers are advised to read the offer/agreement terms and conditions carefully. The offers may be revised or withdrawn without any prior notice. Offer available till stocks last. Available at select participating Apple Authorised Reseller stores. For store details log on to IndiaiStore.com. All trademarks, logos and brand names are the property of their respective owners. Product features vary by model. TM and © 2025 Apple Inc. All rights reserved.

FRIDAY
April 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
34 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 98

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

PLEA TO STALL REJECTED

UGC rules to fight caste bias get SC nod

NEWS » PAGE 22

HOUSES TARGETED

Israeli strikes kill 55 in Gaza

WORLD » PAGE 24

EXPERTS' CALL

Strict guidelines sought on use of antibiotics

NEWS » PAGE 22

TARIFF WAR ERA

Is World Trade Organization still relevant?

There are growing calls for massive reforms

OPINION » PAGE 19

GAME-CHANGER

Hazlewood gives RCB its first win at home

SPORT » PAGE 25

Pak. shuts airspace, snaps trade relations with India

Reacting to India's response to Pahalgam strike, Islamabad warns against any 'misadventure'; it adds that any attempt to stop Indus waters will be considered an 'act of war'; Wagah border shut

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Pakistan on Thursday closed its air space to Indian airliners and suspended all trade as part of its response to India's actions after the Pahalgam terror attack. It warned against any "misadventure", indicating that it expects a military response from India over Tuesday's brutal killing of 26 men in Jammu and Kashmir by terrorists belonging to a group linked to the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba.

'Act of war'

Pakistan also matched the decisions taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, including closing the Wagah border check post, declaring Indian defence, naval and air advisors *persona non grata*, and downsizing the High Commission from 55 to 30 personnel. Pakistan said any attempt to "stop or divert" Indus water flow to the country would be considered an 'act of war'.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 20

Islamabad ups the ante

Pakistan's countermeasures after India's five-pronged response to Pahalgam attack

Back to home: Indian citizens return from Pakistan through Wagah border on Thursday. AFP

- **Pakistani airspace shut** to Indian-operated airlines
- **Wagah border,** cross-border transit and trade **closed**
- **SAARC visas suspended,** except for Sikh pilgrims
- Indian Defence, Naval, Air **Advisors told to exit**
- High Commission **staff cut from 55 to 30**
- **Blocking Indus flow deemed 'act of war';** Simla Accord may be held in abeyance

Attackers will be punished beyond their imagination: PM

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Paying tributes to those killed in Pahalgam, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday emphatically said that those responsible for the terrorist attack and their conspirators will be punished "beyond their imagination".

"The punishment will be significant and stringent, which these terrorists would have never even thought about," he said at Jhanjharpur in Madhubani district of Bihar during an event to mark National Panchayati Raj Day. This is Mr. Modi's second visit to poll-bound State since February 24.

Narendra Modi

He started his address in Hindi but suddenly switched to English, apparently to give his message to the world. "Today, from the soil of Bihar I want to say to the whole world that India will identify, trace and punish every terrorist, supporter and conspirator. We'll pursue them to the end of the earth," he said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 20

Students from Kashmir face backlash, kin express fear

Peerzada Ashiq
Ishita Mishra
SRINAGAR/NEW DELHI

In a Punjab college, Kashmiri students say they were assaulted and attacked by other students armed with sticks and knives. In Uttarakhand, a right-wing group threatened Kashmiri students to leave Dehradun or face reprisal. The police in both States have taken action in these cases, but such reports of Kashmiri students facing intimidation and harassment after Tuesday's terror attack in Pahalgam have left their parents in the Valley anxious and distressed.

On Thursday, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said he was engaging with other State administrations regarding such incidents.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 20

'Tourists taken to meadow without police permission'

Leaders observing a two-minute silence as a tribute to those killed in the Pahalgam attack in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Sobhana K. Nair
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

An all-party meeting held on Thursday in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack unanimously promised support to the Centre in its war against terrorism, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said.

There was no police permission for tourists to visit the Baisaran meadow, where the incident that claimed 26 lives on Tuesday occurred, officials told the meeting. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the meeting that lasted for more than two hours.

Mr. Rijiju said the Defence Minister detailed the decisions taken by the government following the terror attack.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 20

NEARBY

Governor gives nod to GBG Bill

BENGALURU
Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has given his assent to the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2025. The legislation will allow for establishment of the Greater Bengaluru Authority. » Page 2

Kin bid farewell to terror attack victims

BENGALURU/SHIVAMOGGA
Family and friends on Thursday bid a tearful farewell to Bharath Bhushan, 41, and Manjunath Rao, 47, who were killed in the terror attack on Tuesday at Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. » Page 7

METROPLUS » PAGES 8, 9 & 11

12 killed in Russia's attack on Kyiv

Associated Press
KYIV

Russia pounded Kyiv with an hours-long barrage of missiles and drones on Thursday, killing at least 12 people in its deadliest assault on the Ukrainian capital since July and drawing a rare rebuke of Moscow from U.S. President Donald Trump just as peace efforts were coming to a head.

The attack kept residents on edge for about 11 hours, with many staying awake all night while loud explosions reverberated around the capital city and flashes of light punctuated the sky.

Families gathered in public air-raid shelters. The strikes that began around 1 a.m. hit at least five neighbourhoods and heavily damaged multiple residential buildings. Around 90 people were wounded.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he would cut short his official trip to South Africa and return home as the city reeled from the bombardment. It appeared to be Russia's biggest attack on Kyiv in nine months, and Mr. Zelenskyy called it one of Russia's "most outrageous".

Later, he alleged that Russia used a North Korean ballistic missile in the attack.

(With AFP inputs)

This is an advertisement for information purpose and is not a prospectus announcement.

ICL FINCORP LIMITED

SECURED, REDEEMABLE NON-CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES **NCD**

ICL Fincorp

CREDIT RATING
CRISIL BBB-/ STABLE

UP TO
DOUBLE RETURNS*

*BASED ON EFFECTIVE YIELD ON CUMULATIVE BASIS UNDER OPTION X, 68 MONTHS, TDS AS APPLICABLE.

ISSUE OPENS ON: APRIL 25, 2025 (FRIDAY) | ISSUE CLOSES ON: MAY 09, 2025 (FRIDAY)*

The Issue shall remain open for subscription on Working Days from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time), during the period indicated above, except that the Issue may close on such earlier date or extended date as may be decided by the Board of Directors of our Company or the Debenture Issue Committee, subject to relevant approvals (subject to a minimum period of two working days and a maximum period of 10 working days from the date of opening of this Issue). In the event of an early closure or extension of the Issue, our Company shall ensure that notice of such early closure or extension is given to the prospective investors through an advertisement in a national daily newspaper and a regional daily newspaper in Tamil Nadu where the registered office is located, with wide circulation on or before such earlier date or extended date of closure. Application Forms for the Issue will be accepted only from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) or such extended time as may be permitted by the Stock Exchange, on Working Days during the Issue Period. On the Issue Closing Date, Application Forms will be accepted only between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and uploaded until 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) or such extended time as may be permitted by the Stock Exchange.

Issue Structure: (For detailed Issue Structure refer Prospectus dated April 21, 2025)

Face value	: ₹ 1,000 each	Minimum application size : ₹ 10,000 (10 NCDs) & in multiples of 1 NCD thereafter	
Tenure (months)	: 13, 24, 36, 60 and 68		
Schemes	: 10 schemes with 10 ISINs	Payout options : Monthly, Annually & Cumulative	

THE ISSUE

PUBLIC ISSUE BY OUR COMPANY OF 10,00,000 SECURED, REDEEMABLE, NON-CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1,000 EACH, ("NCDS") AT PAR, FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO ₹5,00,000 THOUSAND ("BASE ISSUE SIZE") WITH AN OPTION TO RETAIN OVERSUBSCRIPTION OF UP TO ₹5,00,000 THOUSAND, AGGREGATING UP TO ₹10,00,000 THOUSAND, (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "ISSUE SIZE"). THE ISSUE IS BEING MADE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (ISSUE AND LISTING OF NON-CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES) REGULATIONS, 2021, AS AMENDED. THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 AND RULES MADE THEREUNDER TO THE EXTENT NOTIFIED AND THE SEBI MASTER CIRCULAR AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME. THE ISSUE IS NOT PROPOSED TO BE UNDERWRITTEN.

	OPTION IV	OPTION III	OPTION II	OPTION I
COUPON RATE: (MONTHLY OPTIONS)	12.50% PER ANNUM 60 MONTHS	12.00% PER ANNUM 36 MONTHS	11.50% PER ANNUM 24 MONTHS	11.00% PER ANNUM 13 MONTHS

*Indicating coupon rates for monthly options only. Refer Prospectus dated April 21, 2025 to view effective yield for monthly, annually and cumulative options.

To Know More: Visit Nearest ICL Fincorp Branch | To Download Application: Visit www.iclfincorp.com
For Enquiries: Call +91 85890 20137, +91 85890 20186

LEAD MANAGER TO THE ISSUE: VIVRO | DEBENTURE TRUSTEE: MITCON CREDENTIA | REGISTRAR TO THE ISSUE: CAMEO | CREDIT RATING: Crisil Ratings | STATUTORY AUDITOR: MOHANDAS & ASSOCIATES, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS | COMPLIANCE OFFICER & COMPANY SECRETARY: VISAKH T.V, COMPANY SECRETARY

Capitalised terms not defined herein shall have the same meaning as assigned to such terms in the Prospectus dated April 21, 2025.

DISCLAIMER OF THE ISSUER: ICL Fincorp Limited **("Company")**, subject to market conditions, and other considerations, is proposing a public issue of secured redeemable non-convertible debentures **("NCDs")** and has filed a prospectus dated April 21, 2025 **("Prospectus")** with the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu at Chennai **("RoC")**, BSE Limited **("BSE")** and Securities and Exchange Board of India **("SEBI")**. The Prospectus is available on the website of the Company at www.iclfincorp.com, on the website of BSE at www.bseindia.com, on the website of the lead manager at www.vivro.net and on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in. Investors proposing to participate in the Issue should invest only on the basis of the information contained in the Prospectus. Investors should note that investment in the NCDs involves a high degree of risk and for details in relation to the same, refer to the Prospectus, including the section titled *"Risk Factors"* and *"Material Developments"* beginning on page 17 and 117 respectively of the Prospectus. Capitalised terms not defined herein shall have the same meaning as assigned to such terms in the Prospectus.

LISTING: The NCDs offered through the Prospectus are proposed to be listed on BSE Limited **("BSE")** and BSE shall be the Designated Stock Exchange. Our Company has received an 'in-principle' approval from BSE vide their letter no. DCS/BM/PI-BOND/10/25-26 dated April 17, 2025.

GENERAL RISK: Investment in non-convertible securities is risky, and investors should not invest any funds in such securities unless they can afford to take the risk attached to such investments. Investors are advised to take an informed decision and to read the risk factors carefully before investing in this offering. For taking an investment decision, the Investors must rely on their own examination of the Issuer and the Issue, including the risks involved. Specific attention of the Investors is invited to the chapter titled "Risk Factors" on page 17 and "Material Developments" on page 117 of the Prospectus, before making an investment in this Issue. These risks are not, and are not intended to be, a complete list of all risks and considerations relevant to the non-convertible securities or investor's decision to purchase such securities. This Prospectus has not been and will not be approved by any regulatory authority in India, including the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"), the Reserve Bank of India ("RBI"), any registrar of companies or any stock exchange in India nor do they guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of this document.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF BSE: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE Limited should not in any way be deemed or construed that the Draft Offer Document has been cleared or approved by BSE Limited nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Prospectus. The investors are advised to refer to the Draft Offer Document/Offer Document for the full text of the Disclaimer clause of the BSE Limited.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF USE OF BSE ELECTRONIC PLATFORM: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by the BSE to use their network and software of the Online system should not in any way be deemed or construed as compliance with various statutory requirements approved by the Exchange; nor does it in any manner warrant, certify or endorse the correctness or completeness of any of the compliance with the statutory and other requirements; nor does it take any responsibility for the financial or other soundness of this Company, its promoters, its management or any scheme or project of this Company.

NAMES OF THE SIGNATORIES AT THE TIME OF SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION COMPANY AND THE NUMBER OF SHARES SUBSCRIBED FOR BY THEM AT THE TIME OF SIGNING THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION: Given are the names of the signatories of the Memorandum of Association of the Company and the number of equity shares subscribed of face value of ₹10/- each by them at the time of signing of Memorandum of Association: 1. Amarchand Kothari (10 equity shares allotted), A. Badal Kumar (10 equity shares allotted), K. Ashok Bohra (10 equity shares allotted), Subash Chand Jain (10 equity shares allotted), Mahaveer Chand Kothari (10 equity shares allotted), K. Ashok Kumar Jain (10 equity shares allotted) and Narendra Kumar Jain (10 equity shares allotted) at the time of incorporation of the Company aggregating to 70 Equity Shares of face value of ₹10/- each.

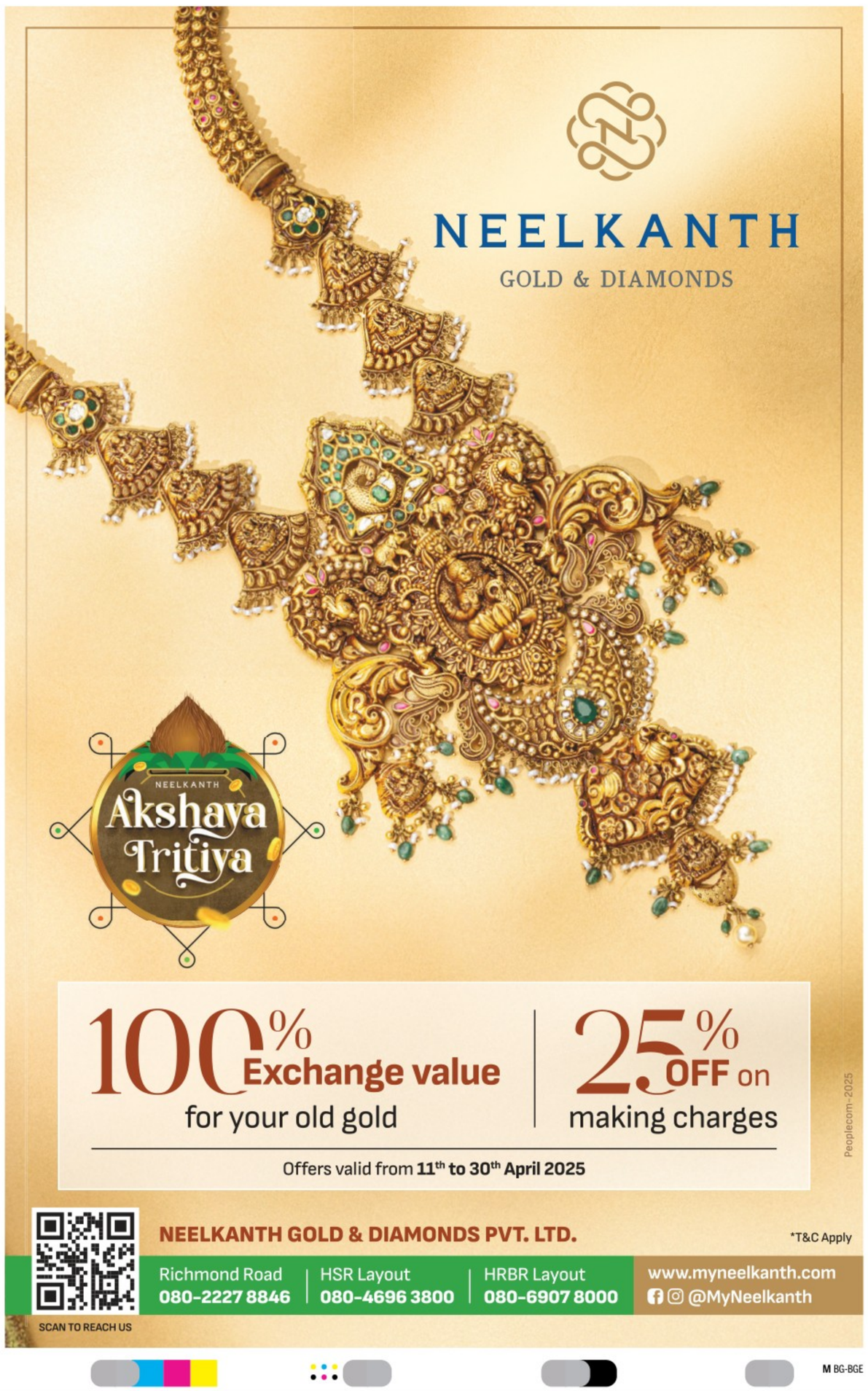
DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF CRISIL: Crisil Ratings Limited **(CRISIL RATINGS)** has taken due care and caution in preparing the material based on the information provided by its client and/or obtained by CRISIL Ratings from sources it considers reliable **("Information")**. A rating by CRISIL Ratings reflects its current opinion on the likelihood of timely payment of the obligations under the rated instrument and does not constitute an audit of the rated entity by CRISIL Ratings. CRISIL Ratings does not guarantee the completeness or accuracy of the information on which the rating is based. A rating by CRISIL Ratings is not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold the rated instrument; it does not comment on the market price or suitability for a particular investor. The rating is not a recommendation to invest or disinvest in any entity covered in the material, and no part of the material should be construed as expert advice, investment advice, or any form of investment banking within the meaning of any law or regulation. CRISIL Ratings explicitly states that it has no liability whatsoever to the subscribers, users, transmitters, or distributors of the material. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, nothing in the material is to be construed as CRISIL Ratings providing or intending to provide any services in jurisdictions where CRISIL Ratings does not have the necessary permissions and/or registrations to carry out its business activities in this regard. ICL Fincorp Limited will be responsible for ensuring compliance with regulations and the consequences of non-compliance for the use of the material or part thereof outside India. Current rating status and CRISIL Ratings' rating criteria are available free of charge to the public on the website, www.crisilratings.com. For the latest rating information on any instrument of any company rated by CRISIL Ratings, please contact the customer service helpdesk at 1800-267-1301.

DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF RBI: The company is having a valid certificate of registration dated June 9, 2016 under section 45 IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. A copy of the Prospectus has not been filed with or submitted to the Reserve Bank of India **("RBI")**. It is distinctly understood that the Prospectus should not in anyway be deemed or construed to be approved or vetted by RBI. RBI does not accept any responsibility or guarantee about the present position as to the financial soundness of the issuer or for the correctness of any of the statements or representations made or opinions expressed by the issuer and for discharge of liability by the issuer. **RBI** neither accepts any responsibility nor guarantee for the payment of any amount due to any investor in respect of the proposed NCDs.

MITCON Credentia Trusteeship Services Limited under Regulation 8 of the SEBI NCS Regulations has by its letter dated April 8, 2025 given its consent for its appointment as Debenture Trustee to this issue and for its name to be included in the Prospectus and in all the subsequent periodical communications sent to the holders of the debentures issued pursuant to this Issue.

PUBLIC ISSUE ACCOUNT BANK & SPONSOR BANK: HDFC BANK LIMITED **SYNDICATE MEMBER:** VIVRO FINANCIAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED

Reg. Office: Plot No: C308, Door No: 66/40, 4th Avenue, Ashok Nagar, Chennai- 600 083, Tamil Nadu, India.
Corp. Office: ICL Fincorp Limited, Main Road, Irinjalakuda, Thrissur–680121, Kerala, India.
Branches: Kerala | Tamil Nadu | Andhra Pradesh | Telangana | Karnataka | Maharashtra | Odisha | Gujarat | iclfincorp



Striking the perfect chord? Making sense of the annual contracts

Though the contracts show the board's commitment towards player welfare, it can be argued that some of the players deserve to be in a higher bracket, given their role in recent triumphs; the presence of big names in the A+ category is a recognition of their consistent contributions over a sustained period of time

R. Kaushik

FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

After weeks of speculation - they will, sure, but when will they? - the Board of Control for Cricket in India announced the annual player contracts for the Indian men's team for the 2024-25 season this Monday. These contracts run between October 1 of last year and September 30 of 2025 - the 34 names in the four categories were revealed exactly halfway through the term - and there are no real surprises as such, though it can be argued that some deserved a better standing than has officially been accorded.

The annual contracts are an absolute must, an insurance against fickle form but also against the threat of injuries that are such an integral part of a professional sportsperson's kitbag. The BCCI retainers have been in vogue for more than two decades now, owing their origin to the efforts undertaken by, among others, Anil Kumble, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar and then skipper Sourav Ganguly. Currently, players are grouped in four categories – A+ (annual retainer of ₹7 crore), A (₹5 crore), B (₹3 crore) and C (₹1 crore). These are effectively, for convenience, annual salaries that are above and beyond match fees and prize money.

The origin

The legends of the past held the view that for the sake of financial security of the players whose shelf life is supremely limited compared to highly qualified professionals in less strenuous physical endeavours, it was imperative that the graded payment structure based on seniority and performance be introduced so that one didn't have to take the field with added pressure riding on their shoulders. Given the riches that the BCCI is able to dip into, it was a no-brainer that players needed to be treated as human beings and assets rather than money-making entities. The fact that retainer amounts have burgeoned to the levels that they currently enjoy is further indication of the Indian board's commitment to ensuring the physical and mental well-being of its 'employees', largely because of whom sponsorship and broadcast monies flow into their treasury.

This year's list has 34 players, an increase by four from the 30 players who were part of the retainer pool for the previous season. Much of the influx is in Grade C, with several new entrants including Varun Chakaravarthy, Nitish Kumar, Abhishek Sharma, Harshit Rana and Akash Deep, who have all played a great deal of international cricket in the last several months, and with no limited success.

Interestingly, also included in this category is feisty wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan, whose last international appearance came nearly a year and a half back, against Australia in at T20 game in Guwahati in November 2023.

Kishan was left out of the contracts' list last year, alongside Shreyas Iyer, the right-hand batter from Mumbai who is leading Punjab Kings in IPL 2025. While there was no official word on the two omissions, it was an open secret why they missed out.

Kishan returned home from South Africa in December 2023, midway through an all-format tour, citing the need to take a break, which is fine because that is entirely the individual's perspective. But when he chose to ignore the BCCI's directive to play domestic cricket while continuing to work on his cricket at a private academy in Vadodara in preparation for IPL 2024, he put the deciding authorities in an impossible position, just like Shreyas did.

Like Kishan, who refrained from representing Jharkhand in the Ranji Trophy, Shreyas briefly stayed away from Mumbai's campaign, citing back issues even though he worked towards IPL 2024, where he eventually led Kolkata Knight Riders to their third title. He was passed fit by the sports science team at the National Cricket Academy (now the Centre of Excellence) but still chose to sit out the quarterfinal against Baroda before returning for the semifinal and lit up the final against Vidarbha with a stroke-filled 95 as Mumbai emerged triumphant for the 42nd time.

Shreyas' indiscretion was met with the same sternness as Kishan, he too missing out on a central contract, but unlike the younger man, the 30-year-old has reintegrated nicely with the larger national group. He travelled to Sri Lanka with the One-Day International squad for Gautam Gambhir's first assignment as Indian head coach in July-August last year - Gambhir had been the mentor at KKR when Shreyas led the franchise to the title - and has been a permanent member of the ODI set-up since. This year, in eight ODIs, he has smacked four half-centuries and registered three other scores between 44 and 48.

In a campaign full of heroes, Shreyas was a less celebrated but massive influence in India's successful run at the Champions Trophy in Dubai in February-March.

Slotting brilliantly into the No. 4 position behind openers Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill and one-drop Virat Kohli, Shreyas orchestrated many a successful run-chase with his composure, his understanding of the conditions, his marginally revamped technique that has seen him play the short ball with greater assurance and authority than ever before, and with his hunger and single-minded focus. He was the fulcrum capable of – indeed, often having to do so – batting in different gears depending on the situation. Now, having set the IPL alight with his exploits at his new franchise, he has flung himself back in the fray for a place in the already brimful T20 scheme of things.

India are the defending World Cup winners and will embark on trying to extend their lease on the crown at home next year.

It is certain that Rohit and Kohli won't be part of that defence, having announced their T20I retirements after victory in the final against South Africa last June. Shreyas has done his chances of a recall no harm whatsoever, triggering a headache of plenty for his Mumbai teammate Suryakumar Yadav, the current national 20-over captain, Gambhir and selection panel chairman Ajit Agarkar. India have had a terrific run in T20Is either side of their World Cup success and the temptation to carry on without Shreyas, who last played a T20I in December 2023, might be overwhelming. But how does one overlook form and pedigree and experience?

Talking points

Having served their penances, the slap on the wrist is now history. Kishan's place in Grade C isn't really a talking point, but Shreyas in Grade B? Maybe he deserved more, perhaps a slot in Grade A which has six players, though the counter to that could be that as of now, he is in the mix in only one format internationally while those in Grade A - Mohammed Siraj, K.L. Rahul, Shubman Gill, Hardik Pandya, Mohammed Shami and Rishabh Pant (elevated from Grade B) - are two-format contenders, at the very least, if not more.

Even buying that unstated argument, what is Axar Patel doing in Grade B? Or Kuldeep Yadav, for that matter? Axar has supplanted Ravindra Jadeja as the senior left-arm spinning all-rounder in white-ball cricket (like Rohit and Kohli, Jadeja too retired from T20Is after the World Cup) and has found a near-permanent calling at No. 5 in the ODI format. He was one of the driving forces behind India's all-conquering run in the T20 World Cup in the Americas in June and the aforementioned Champions Trophy, and the vice-captain to Suryakumar for the T20I series at home against England in January-February.

Clearly, he is being viewed not just as an influential performer but also in a potential leadership role (it might be argued that he was only named the deputy because Shubman Gill didn't play the T20Is against England) and therefore deserved better.

So also Kuldeep, whose left-arm wrist-spin has come on by leaps and bounds in limited-overs cricket in the last couple of years and who will have an increasingly significant role to play in the longer version too, now that R. Ashwin has called time on his glorious international career.

One might be accused of splitting hairs but it is worth remembering that annual contracts are in a lot of ways indicative of what value is ascribed to players from a contribution perspective. That's why alongside the peerless Jasprit Bumrah, Rohit, Kohli and Jadeja continue to be viewed as pre-eminent and have been slotted in A+ even though the last three are no longer available for consideration for one of the three formats. That's how it should be - just because they have retired from one version when they could have carried on with typical efficiency and chutzpah doesn't detract from what they still have to offer in the other two formats.

All of them have played international cricket for a decade and a half, their contributions to Indian cricket scarcely needing reiterating.

They are worthy occupants of the highest realms; it's not about money but respect and the acknowledgement of their stature and their place in the larger picture. The ongoing IPL has provided further evidence - if it was needed - that there is plenty of cricket left in Rohit and Kohli and while Jadeja hasn't exactly fired on all cylinders in a Chennai Super Kings line-up floundering from one defeat to another, he is anything but a spent force.

India have a packed international schedule ahead of them starting from the middle of June, when they will travel to England for a five-Test series. Apart from the World Test Championship campaign, the Asia Cup T20 tournament looms large, seguing into the T20 World Cup next year.

As the country vs country battles unfold, the contracts will be forgotten and the focus will turn to what happens on the field. In the knowledge, at the back of one's mind, that sustained excellence will be rewarded in the future with greater recognition and a more elevated standing.

THE GIST

- This year's list has 34 players, an increase by four from the 30 players who were part of the retainer pool for the previous season
- The influx is in Grade C, with several new entrants including Varun, Nitish, Abhishek, Harshit and Akash Deep
- Having served their penances, the slap on the wrist is now history. Kishan's place in Grade C isn't really a talking point, but Shreyas in Grade B? what is Axar Patel doing in Grade B? Or Kuldeep Yadav, for that matter?

iPhone 15
Dynamic magic.

iPhone 15 features Dynamic Island, a color-infused glass and aluminum design, a 48MP main camera, and USB-C.

Go to IndiaiStore.com to find Apple Authorised stores near you.

Get benefits up to **₹16000***

Inclusive of **₹5000** instant store discount
+
₹3000 Instant cashback on credit cards of
AXIS BANK | ICICI Bank | kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank
+
Exchange bonus up to **₹8000**

INDIA iSTORE
INGRAM MICRO | Redington

*Terms and conditions apply.
The total benefits of ₹16000.00 is computed based on ₹5000.00 instant store discount, ₹3000.00 instant cashback on Axis Bank Credit Card, ICICI Bank Credit Card, Kotak Mahindra Bank Credit Card & on ICICI Bank Debit Card (EMI Only), and a further, ₹8000.00 exchange bonus. The Instant Cashback offer of ₹3000.00 is valid exclusively on Axis Bank Credit Card, ICICI Bank Credit Card, Kotak Mahindra Bank Credit Card & on ICICI Bank Debit Card (EMI Only). The applicable Instant Cashback offer is valid for transactions made using Brand EMI option on Pine Labs and Paytm terminals and applicable on select online merchants via Pine Labs Payment Gateway. No Cost EMI is applicable on Axis Bank Credit Card, ICICI Bank Credit Card, Kotak Mahindra Bank Credit Card & on ICICI Bank Debit Card EMI transactions on 6 months tenure only. Low-Cost EMI is also available on tenures greater than 6 months. Processing fee and GST on interest component applicable as per Bank's terms and conditions. The Exchange Bonus of up to ₹8000.00 is exclusively provided by the Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers Cashify and Servify at select participating stores in association with participating resellers at their sole discretion. Exchange Bonus is valid only for transactions involving Trade-in of customer's eligible old devices valued at least ₹3000.00 or above. Customer's eligible old devices valued between ₹3000.00 and ₹10000.00 will receive an Exchange Bonus of ₹3000.00 and customer's eligible devices valued between ₹10001.00 and ₹15000.00 will receive an Exchange Bonus of ₹5000.00 and customer's eligible devices valued above ₹15000.00 will receive an Exchange Bonus of ₹8000.00. The Exchange Bonus and Trade-in value will be passed on as a credit or discount in the customer's invoice. Exchange Bonus offer can be clubbed with Cards Instant Cashback or Consumer Loans Offer. Customer's eligible old device trade-in value as diagnosed and assessed by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will be the final offer. Any other T&Cs as specified by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will apply. Goods and Services Tax will be applicable on processing fee, interest component and foreclosure charges, as applicable. Customer may be required to enter into separate agreements or arrangements (by whatever name called) with the financier to avail or use the EMI facility. Customers are advised to read the offer/agreement terms and conditions carefully. The offers may be revised or withdrawn without any prior notice. Offer available till stocks last. Available at select participating Apple Authorised Reseller stores. For store details log on to IndiaiStore.com. All trademarks, logos and brand names are the property of their respective owners. Product features vary by model. TM and © 2025 Apple Inc. All rights reserved.

Governor gives nod to Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill

Legislation will allow for establishment of the Greater Bengaluru Authority for coordinating and supervising the development of the Greater Bengaluru area

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The legislation will establish not more than seven city corporations in the greater Bengaluru area for effective, participatory and responsive governance. FILE PHOTO

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has given his assent to the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2025, and the State government issued a gazette notification.

The legislation will allow for establishment of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) for coordinating and supervising the development of the Greater Bengaluru area.

The Governor in March returned the Bill passed in both the Houses during the Budget session seeking clarification from the State, even as civic society collectives petitioned the Governor requesting not to approve the Bill. The activists in the petition argued that the formation of the GBA violates 74th amendment of the Constitution. After the Bill was returned, the State government sent it back to the Governor providing explanations.

Many activists were anticipating that the Governor would forward the Bill to the President citing its constitutional validity.

Prakash Belvawadi, actor and activist, talking to *The Hindu*, said: "The civic society will be meeting again to discuss further course of action in connection to the Act. We may possibly explore legal options as now the Bill was approved by the Governor."

With Governor' assent, the Act will establish not more than seven city corporations in the Greater Bengaluru area for effective, participatory and responsive governance.

The Act will empower ward committees to become basic units of urban governance and facilitate community participation.

The Act will integrate and streamline political accountability of all public authorities delivering services in the greater Bengaluru area.

It aims at improving the quality of life of all citizens by instituting a decentralised, participative, efficient and equitable governance framework for Bengaluru.

The Bill was passed during the Budget session of the legislature in March. In another development, the Governor has also given his assent to the Universities of Agricultural Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2025, for the setting up of a new University of Agricultural Sciences in Mandya.

The university, to be located at V.C. Farm in Mandya, will cater to districts of Mandya, Hassan, Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, and Kodagu.

HDD opposes land acquisition for township at Bidadi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda has opposed the acquisition of agricultural land at Bidadi by the Greater Bengaluru Development Authority for developing a township.

"It is reported that the government has initiated the process of acquiring approximately 10,000 acres in several survey numbers across 24 villages in Bidadi hobli of Ramanagara district under the Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha constituency," the former Prime Minister wrote in a letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

He pointed out that the State government had already acquired thousands of acres of agricultural land for establishing industrial zones, and being close to Bengaluru metropolitan region, the area has already seen establishment of several private industries.

Mr. Gowda said that the remaining agricultural land was essential for the livelihood of farmers who are dependent on it for dairy farming, sericulture, horticulture, and cultivation. "A majority of these farmers are marginal or small landholders from economically weaker backgrounds. Farmers have cultivated lakhs of trees and plants on their farmland, and acquiring such land for a township project would cause irreparable environmental damage. Many rural youth from farming households could end up being unemployed and destitute," he said in the letter.

Crackdown on illegal hoardings: BBMP comes out with new SoP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The updated SoP lays out clear responsibilities for civic officials, strengthens coordination with the police, and introduces tougher enforcement provisions aimed at eradicating illegal flexes, banners, cut-outs, and similar public displays. FILE PHOTO

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has issued a new Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) to intensify its crackdown on unauthorised advertisements, replacing the earlier framework with a more coordinated and enforceable structure.

The updated SoP lays out clear responsibilities for civic officials, strengthens coordination with the police, and introduces tougher enforcement provisions aimed at eradicating illegal flexes, banners, cut-outs, and similar public displays.

At the core of the revision is the formation of dedicated BBMP advertisement control teams in each zone. These teams, comprising junior, assistant, and assistant executive engineers, will work in close coordination with marshals, Home Guards, and local police to identify, remove, and penalise unauthorised hoardings. The assistant executive engineer of the respective subdivision will oversee these operations and ensure complaints are registered against violators.

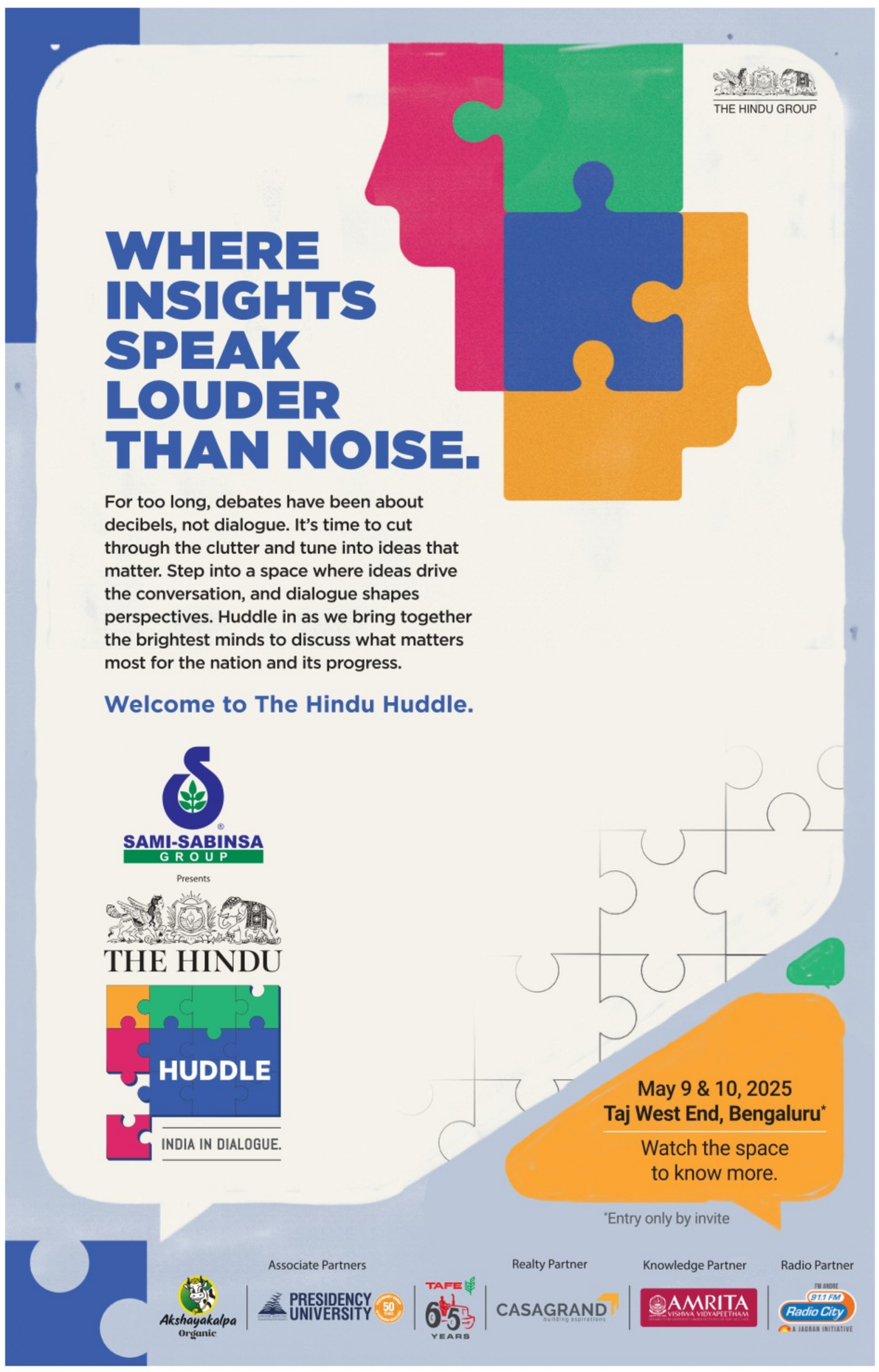
For seamless implementation, each ward will have designated engineers responsible for lodging complaints with the local police.

In the absence of permanent staff, contract workers may be deployed. BBMP officials have also been authorised to recover the cost of advertisement removal along with penalties by treating them as property tax arrears, under Section 161 of the BBMP Act, 2020. The SoP emphasises that no banner, flex, cut-out, or advertisement can be displayed without written permission from the BBMP Chief Commissioner, as per Section 158 of the BBMP Act, 2020.

A dedicated control room will operate from every assistant executive engineer's office to receive public complaints via phone or the BBMP help app (1533). Police stations are required to appoint nodal officers for continuous collaboration with BBMP teams, while enforcement personnel such as Hoysala patrolling units must notify BBMP of any ongoing or newly erected illegal advertisements.

The police and BBMP teams are expected to respond immediately upon receiving such information, remove the advertisements, and register FIRs under multiple legal provisions including the Karnataka Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, Indian Penal Code, and the Public Property Damage Act. The FIRs must name both the installer and the beneficiary of the advertisement, and criminal action, including arrests, will be pursued where necessary.

The revised SoP mandates 24/7 availability of advertisement control personnel across zones, publishing contact details for public access and assigning nodal officers to coordinate enforcement at each police station. The BBMP Commissioner and the Police Commissioner will regularly review the implementation and effectiveness of the SoP.


THE HINDU GROUP
WHERE INSIGHTS SPEAK LOUDER THAN NOISE.
For too long, debates have been about decibels, not dialogue. It's time to cut through the clutter and tune into ideas that matter. Step into a space where ideas drive the conversation, and dialogue shapes perspectives. Huddle in as we bring together the brightest minds to discuss what matters most for the nation and its progress.
Welcome to The Hindu Huddle.
SAMI-SABINSA GROUP
Presents
THE HINDU
HUDDLE
INDIA IN DIALOGUE.
May 9 & 10, 2025
Taj West End, Bengaluru*
Watch the space to know more.
*Entry only by invite
Associate Partners
Akshayakalpa Organic
PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY
TAFE 65 YEARS
Realty Partner
CASAGRAND
Knowledge Partner
AMRITA VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM
Radio Partner
91.1 FM Radio City

BAJAJ
BUILT FOR LIFE
BLDC FANS
MINIMUM
MAXIMUM
BAJAJ SUPER SAVER BLDC FANS
SUPER EFFICIENT STYLISH
WARRANTY 5-YEAR ON MOTOR
VOITTAA
ARIOSO
CLASSICO SLEEK
BEE 5-STAR RATING
LOW ENERGY CONSUMPTION, HIGHER SAVINGS
AESTHETIC DESIGNS
www.bajajelectricals.com | +91 70399 20000 | Free Home Service*: 022 4128 0000 | consumercare@bajajelectricals.com
*T&C apply. Product images are for representative purposes only and the actual colours/sizes may vary.
^Features available in select Bajaj BLDC Fans only
Scan to know more

The mosquito effect: how malarial chaos influenced human history

Once thought to arise from 'bad air', the mosquito-borne parasite altered migration and shaped racial hierarchies; the disease continues to afflict approximately 263 million people annually, with Africa still shouldering a majority of the burden; while the deaths have decreased, it still remains a major public health challenge

WORLD MALARIA DAY

C. Aravinda

April 25 has been recognised globally by the World Health Organization (WHO) as World Malaria Day (previously African Malaria Day), since 2006 to highlight the need for continued investment and innovation. The "butterfly effect" from chaos theory might result in a Tornado, but the "mosquito effect" (through the parasite it carries) has fundamentally altered human migration patterns, enabling European colonisation and reshaping the geopolitical landscape of entire continents. The mosquito, a seemingly insignificant insect, wielded astonishing power and profoundly altered human civilisation. Malaria, derived from the Italian "*mala aria*," meaning "bad air", is a saga of discovery, colonisation, human suffering and scientific breakthroughs.

Challenges remain: A nurse assistant administering malaria vaccine on a child in Uganda. April 25 has been recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO) as World Malaria Day. GETTY IMAGES

Miasma to parasite

Before modern science unravelled malaria's secrets, people believed it was caused by miasma – poisonous air emanating from marshes. It wasn't until 1880 that the French military doctor Alphonse Laveran identified the malaria parasite from the blood of soldiers who had died of fever in Algeria. However, identifying the parasite was just the first puzzle; the full picture of malaria's transmission remained elusive. In 1885-86, Camillo Golgi and Angelo Celli demonstrated the cyclical nature of the fever in relation to the parasite. In 1892, Ettore Marchiafava further characterised the five species of the parasite, distinguishing Plasmodium falciparum from others. Of notable mention is Patrick Manson, often regarded as the 'father of tropical medicine,' who first established the role of mosquitoes in disease transmission with filariasis and later mentored Ronald Ross. In 1894, Manson hypothesised that mosquitoes could transmit malaria, too. Ross, inspired by Manson's theory, identified the parasite in the gut of the Anopheles mosquito after studying avian malaria in birds in 1897. His breakthrough paved the way for understanding human disease. Giovanni Battista Grassi made significant contributions by linking human malaria to the female Anopheles mosquito in 1898. By 1898, the complete transmission cycle of malaria was scientifically understood.

Before these discoveries, European colonial efforts in Africa were severely constrained by extraordinarily high mortality rates. In coastal African colonial trade posts, European troop mortality averaged 500 deaths per 1,000 soldiers annually in the 1800s, with those venturing inland facing even worse prospects of up to 60% mortality. In 1865, a British parliamentary committee recommended withdrawing from West Africa altogether due to disease threats. When the Gold Coast (modern Ghana) became a colony in 1874, the first three candidates declined the governor's position due to "health concerns", and the fourth died of malaria within a month of taking office. Consequently, until 1870, European powers controlled only 10% of the African continent, with settlements primarily restricted to coastal areas. Africa was known as "the white man's grave," a place where European colonial ambitions perished.

The correlation between understanding malaria and colonial expansion is striking. As scientists decoded malaria's mysteries between 1880 and 1900, European powers dramatically expanded their control across Africa. Following the 1884 Berlin Conference, which regulated European colonisation and trade in Africa, the "Scramble for Africa" accelerated rapidly. By 1914, European powers had seized control of nearly 90% of the continent, with only Liberia, Ethiopia, and a few more maintaining independence. This was no coincidence. With knowledge about malaria transmission, colonial administrators implemented targeted prevention strategies for European settlements: draining mosquito-breeding swamps, establishing segregated European quarters, and creating hill stations at higher elevations with fewer mosquitoes. Scientific findings about malaria transmission quickly percolated into colonial policy. By 1901, the British adopted a policy of segregated living based on new knowledge about Anopheles mosquitoes and the racist perception of Africans as disease reservoirs.

Scramble for Africa

King Leopold II of Belgium epitomised this exploitation in the brutal colonisation of the Congo. Equipped with quinine, mosquito nets, and a scientific understanding of malaria, European troops subdued resistance and established lucrative colonies. Quinine, derived from the bark of the Cinchona tree, was discovered during Portuguese conquests in South America. Its use post-1880s was guided by scientific understanding. But, the success of colonizing Africa was not purely biological. Innovations and technology to build railroads, steamships, enhanced rifles, and telegraphs helped navigate and control vast territories. But, knowledge about malaria transmission was the "keystone technology". It neutralised nature's deadliest resistance, allowing soldiers to survive and civil servants to administer colonial machinery.

The impact of malaria extended beyond Africa. In the trans-Atlantic slave trade, Africans with a natural genetic resistance to malaria were preferred labour in malaria-infested regions like the Caribbean and the Americas. Consequently, they were traded at higher prices than European labourers, who died of the disease. It created a racialised labour economy, the aftershocks of which echo even today. The modern racial tensions in American and European societies bear this genetic legacy. The valuation of African bodies not only established brutal slavery systems but also seeded pseudo-scientific justifications for racial superiority. Thus, malaria contributed to the present long-standing racial prejudices and social structures.

Malaria today

With quinine as a base, more refined drugs like chloroquine and artemisinin followed. Insecticide-treated bed nets and indoor spraying revolutionised prevention. Today, the malaria vaccine RTS,S brings new hope, though challenges persist. Malaria remains treatable, but Africa still shoulders 94% of the global burdens (as per the WHO World Malaria Report 2024). Beyond medicine, malaria is increasingly considered in modern environmental impact assessments. Deforestation, water stagnation, and climate change influence mosquito habitats, making disease control part of ecological planning.

Today, malaria continues to afflict approximately 263 million people annually, killing over 600,000, with Africa reporting 95% of the mortality. Although the death toll has decreased substantially, in absolute numbers, malaria remains a major public health challenge. The history of the discovery of malaria transmission is a powerful reminder that scientific breakthroughs can have complex and contradictory impacts. The discoveries that eventually saved millions of lives also enabled colonial exploitation.

(Dr. C. Aravinda is an academic and public health physician. The views expressed are personal. aravindaaiimsjr10@hotmail.com)

THE GIST

- The complete transmission cycle of malaria was scientifically understood in 1898. Before these discoveries, European colonial efforts in Africa were severely constrained by extraordinarily high mortality rates
- With knowledge about malaria transmission, colonial administrators implemented targeted prevention strategies for European settlements. Malaria contributed to the present long-standing racial prejudices and social structures
- Beyond medicine, malaria is increasingly considered in modern environmental impact assessments. Deforestation, water stagnation, and climate change influence mosquito habitats, making disease control part of ecological planning

BIG SHOT

A health worker administering polio drops to school children during a door-to-door campaign in Lahore. Pakistan is one of the two countries where polio remains endemic. AFP

'Text neck': mobile phones are reshaping our spines

Mohit Muttha

Text neck is a repeated stress injury as well as pain, sustained from excessive watching or texting on handheld devices for long periods of time. The dependence on mobile phones is increasing rapidly, and people spend long hours on their phones, which leads to various musculoskeletal problems. Individuals with this syndrome usually present with neck pain, restricted cervical range of motion, reduced muscle strength and endurance, altered cervical joint position error, along with postural alterations like forward head posture and rounded shoulders.

According to recent research, 79% of those aged 18 to 44 have their phones with them virtually all of the time, with only two hours of their waking day spent without them.

In the neutral position, an adult's head weighs 10-12 pounds. With the flexion of the head, the load increases towards the neck, and the weight is calculated to be 27, 40, 49, and 60 pounds at 15°, 30°, 45°, and 60° respectively. People who use a smartphone frequently have a downward gaze to focus lower, and keep their heads in a forward position for lengthy periods, which can cause neck strain, eventually hastening the process of ageing in the cervical spine. The symptom can result from improper workstations, poor ergonomics, inadequate breaks, and prolonged improper postures.

Symptoms of 'text neck' include headaches, stiffness, shoulder pain, and persistent neck pain. GETTY IMAGES

Common symptoms of text neck include headaches, stiffness, shoulder pain, and persistent neck pain. In more extreme situations, tingling or numbness in the fingers or arms could be present, suggesting that nerves are being squeezed.

Text neck, if ignored and untreated, can result in serious long-term consequences, such as flattening of the spinal curvature, early onset of arthritis, spinal misalignment, spinal degeneration, disc space compression, disc herniation, nerve or muscle damage, inflammation of cervical ligaments, nerve irritation, and an increase in spine curvature.

A case study

Take this case of a young IT professional. He came in with severe neck pain radiating to the right arm and to the thumb. He had developed neurological weakness in the form of a poor hand grip and an inability to extend the wrist.

An MRI revealed a huge C56 disc pressing on the right side of the C6 nerve root, leading to this catastrophe. He was immediately taken up for endoscopic removal of disc, decompression of the affected nerve root, followed by replacement by an artificial disc with the aim to retain movements at that level and to avoid adjacent disc degeneration. He regained all of his lost power and was pain-free immediately, and was able to rejoin work in a week.

Not all people however, end up with the above scenario, and not all require surgical intervention unless neurological weakness is detected. A personalised approach, along with community awareness are both factors that can play a vital role in the rationalisation of text neck syndrome.

Simple changes in lifestyle can often be part of the initial course of treatment. Pain can be relieved and further damage can be avoided with physical treatment, posture correction, stretching exercises, and screen time reduction. Also helpful are ergonomic workstations, supportive chairs, and regular pauses when using a laptop or phone.

Surgery might be considered in situations where the spine has sustained structural damage, such as slipped discs or significant nerve compression. It's easier to prevent text neck than to treat it. Maintaining an active lifestyle, holding displays at eye level, and encouraging proper posture can all have a big impact. In the digital age, spinal health can be significantly protected by early awareness and conscious practices.

(Dr. Mohit Muttha is a consultant spine surgeon at Manipal Hospital, Kharadi, Pune. Mohit.muttha@manipalhospitals.com)

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

FRIDAY
April 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
34 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 98

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

New beginnings offer!

Flat 15% off*

on furniture purchase of ₹20,000 and above

IKEA Family price
KLEPPSTAD
Wardrobe with 3 doors
Rs.11,990

Assured voucher of Rs.1,000* | No-cost EMI available | Delivery starting at Rs.69 | 365-day return and exchange*

*T&C Apply

© Inter IKEA Systems B.V. 2000-2025

Scan to know more

Join IKEA Family club for free to avail the offer.

Visit IKEA Nagasandra.

IKEA.in | IKEA app | Shop by 1800 419 4532

IKEA

J BG-BGE

Shooting case: Ricky Rai's security guard arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bidadi police on Thursday claimed to have cracked the Ricky Rai shooting case and arrested a 53-year-old security guard who opened fire at the car.

The accused Vittal Monappa, who was the gatekeeper of Ricky's house, allegedly opened fire to stage manage the attack. Ricky, 35, the son of late underworld operative Muthappa Rai, sustained injuries on his nose and right arm and was admitted to the hospital.

Ricky Rai

Going by the nature of attack, the police, who analysed the crime scene and verified the ballistic report, corroborated it with the weapons used by the security guards before taking Vittal into custody.

Monappa was questioned two days ago before being hospitalised owing to health reasons.

He was discharged on Thursday morning and questioned for several hours before being placed under arrest.

The police are now probing further to ascertain the motive behind the attack. Ricky's driver, in his complaint, accused his rivals Rakesh Malli, a former associate-turned-foe of Muthappa Rai; Anuradha, Muthappa Rai's second wife, and Nitesh Shetty and Vaidyanathan, owners of Bengaluru-based prominent real estate firm Nitesh Estates.

Rakesh was questioned by the police, but based on circumstantial evidence, the police confirmed that it was an insider job and corroborated with the evidence before arresting Vittal, officials said.

Though the police suspected that Ricky stage managed the attack to implicate his rivals, the police are further investigating to ascertain the exact motive.

Ricky was shot at by an unidentified assailant while he was travelling in a car with his driver and private security from his Bidadi farmhouse to Bengaluru around 12.50 a.m. on April 19. The incident happened just a few metres away from the gate of Muthappa Rai's farmhouse in Bidadi.

Maharashtra Academy of Naval Education & Training Pune, INDIA
Approved by Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India
Grade A1 (Outstanding) awarded in CIP of DG Shipping
NAAC A ACCREDITED
MIT-ADT UNIVERSITY
PUNE, INDIA
A Leap Towards World Class Education
EMBRACE
MARITIME
PROFESSION
ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR 2025-26
ASSURED PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE
CIP Grade A1 Outstanding A1
4050+ BENEFITTED ALUMNI
24+ GLORIOUS YEARS 24
Merchant Navy Courses Offered
B.Tech Marine Engineering
B.Sc Nautical Science
Diploma in Nautical Science (DNS)
Electro Technical Officer (ETO)
+91 95959 96611 | +91 77740 62352 / +91 77740 62351
Website : www.manetpune.edu.in
Email : admissions.manet@mituniversity.edu.in
Gat No.140, Vishwarajbaug, Pune-Solapur Highway, Loni Kalbhor, Pune- 412201
APPLY NOW

DGP murder: CCB takes wife Pallavi into custody

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) probing the murder of former DG & IGP Om Prakash took his wife Pallavi into custody for seven days to ascertain the motive behind the murder.

Pallavi had allegedly confessed to murdering Prakash at their house in HSR Layout on April 20. She had allegedly stabbed him multiple times killing him on the spot, before informing her friend about the murder.

Even though she allegedly confessed to having killed him over a domestic row, there were multiple theories the police came across during the course of investigation which needed to be probed. Considering her mental condition, she was arrested and remanded in judicial custody by the HSR Layout police before the case was handed over to the CCB.

The CCB officials obtained a body warrant to secure her custody from the Parappana Agrahara Central Prison where she was lodged.

Preliminary investigation suggests that Prakash got into an argument with Pallavi during lunch on April 20. The argument escalated and resulted in his murder. His daughter, Kriti, was also in the house when the incident took place.

The HSR Layout police registered the case based on a complaint by Prakash's 38-year-old son, Karthikesh, who expressed suspicion about his mother and sister, claiming both were suffering from depression. On Monday, the police took Kriti to NIMHANS for evaluation.

Considering the complexities involved, the case has been transferred to the Central Crime Branch (CCB) for further investigation. The HSR Layout police handed over the case files to CCB on Wednesday.

The police will soon summon Kriti also for questioning, according to the sources.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, APR. 25		
RISE	06:02	SET 18:33
RISE	03:50	SET 16:12
SATURDAY, APR. 26		
RISE	06:01	SET 18:34
RISE	04:33	SET 17:11
SUNDAY, APR. 27		
RISE	06:01	SET 18:34
RISE	05:18	SET 18:11

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	35	24
Mysuru	34	22
Bengaluru	35	24

Bengaluru Today
34°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Night will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevai.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
35°C The weather will be dry. Day will be warm. Night will be pleasant.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2025
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

ANANDA SOCIAL & EDUCATIONAL TRUST
Patron of
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Medical College & Hospital (45 Yrs.)
Mathosree Ramabai Ambedkar Dental College (39 Yrs.)
Mathosree Bheemabai Ambedkar Nursing College (36 Yrs.)
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Physiotherapy College (25 Yrs.)
are Rendering Services In Education & Health Needs.
Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL
HUMANITY COMPASSION
ESTD 1980
ANANDA SOCIAL & EDUCATIONAL TRUST (R) BENGALURU
Shri. MALLIKARJUN M KHARGEJI, President A.I.C.C.
Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha. & Founder Patron (AS&ET)
FOUNDER PATRONS
Late-SRI.B. BASAVALINGAPPA Ex. Minister
Late-SRI.R. GUNDU RAO. Ex. Chief Minister
Late-SRI.C.M.ARUMUGAM Ex. MLA
Late-SRI.B. SHANKARANAND Ex. UNION MINISTER
Late-SRI.B. RACHAIAH. Ex. MINISTER & GOVERNER
Late-SRI.K. BHEEMAIAH. Ex. CHIEF JUSTICE
Late-SRI.N. DHARAM SINGH Ex. CHIEF MINISTER
FOUNDER TRUSTEES
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA
Unveiling and Inauguration Ceremony of
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Bronze Statue and National Symbol
of Saranath Ashoka Sthamba, New Hospital Bldg. & Hostel
Inauguration by:
Shri. MALLIKARJUN M KHARGEJI, President A.I.C.C.
Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha.
Presided by Shri V.S. Kuber Chairman AS & ET.
SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOR
Shri Dinesh R. Gundu Rao Minister for Health & Family Welfare.
Shri Dr. Sharanprakash R. Patil Minister Medical Education & Skill Development.
Shri A.C. Srinivas. MLA Pulakeshinagar.
Date : April 26th Saturday 2025 Time : 10:30AM.
VENUE: Bharat Ratna Dr. AMBEDKAR MEDICAL COLLEGE CAMPUS.
Kadugondanahalli, Bengaluru - 560045
Welcome by Management Principals, Staff & Students
SRI.V.S.KUBER.
SRI.S.GURAPPAJI.
RADHAKRISHNA Member of Parliment
SRI.H.S.MAHADEVA PRASAD.
Dr. N.T. MURALI MOHAN
Dr. RANI SUJATHA M.A
SRI. M.K. SHIVA KUMAR.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of Chinese citizens taken in from Myanmar scam centres

900 China has repatriated more than 900 citizens it suspects of working in internet scam centres in Myanmar's borderlands. Myanmar's many-sided civil war — sparked by a 2021 coup — has enabled the rapid growth of lucrative internet fraud factories established in its loosely governed borderlands. AFP

Number of patent applications filed in India in 2023-24

92,172 The filing of patent applications in India has surged by 116%, rising from 42,763 in 2014-15 to 92,172 in 2023-24. Patent filings by startups and MSMEs have also increased by 310% in the past five years, from 1,492 in 2018-19 to 6,120 in 2023-24. Patent grants increased from 5,978 in 2014-15 to 1,03,057 in 2023-24. PTI

Number of NATO members who in 2024 hit 2% spending target

22 The North Atlantic Treaty Organization on Thursday said 22 of its 32 members hit the defence spending threshold of 2% of GDP last year, as U.S. President Donald Trump pushes to more than double that target. European countries have ramped up their military budgets since Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, and NATO has set 2% as a bottom line for spending. AFP

Number of soldiers killed in Benin in an Islamic militant attack

54 The attack had been on military posts, the West African country's government said. JNIM, an extremist group linked to al-Qaida, claimed responsibility and said it killed 70 soldiers, according to the SITE Intelligence Group. The attacks took place in Benin's northeastern Alibori department, which borders Burkina Faso, Niger and Nigeria. AFP

Share of pre-monsoon nullah desilting work completed in Mumbai

30 in per cent, according to civic chief Bhushan Gagrani said on Thursday. "Desilting work is being monitored rigorously. For the first time, AI is being used to analyse images and videos of the desilting, transport, weighing and disposal processes. The BMC is spending ₹235 crore on desilting works this year," Mr. Gagrani said. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

The chaos of Karnataka's caste survey

The State's 10-year-old survey coming up for discussion before the Cabinet has invited a slew of criticism — from the politically dominant communities questioning the veracity of their enumeration to experts examining the recommendations, including one for reclassification of certain communities

EXPLAINER

Sharath S. Srivatsa

The story so far:

On April 11, a nearly 10-year-old Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (popularly called the Caste Census) prepared by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes was dusted off and accepted by the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet. Two days prior, the listing of the Caste Census in the Cabinet's agenda for discussion had surprised many. For the Chief Minister had on multiple occasions announced a discussion only to rescind it as political implications were believed to be far-reaching and difficult to handle.

The data was collected by the commission through government-appointed enumerators in April-May 2015 from about 1.35 crore households covering a population of 5.98 crores – nearly 95% of the then projected population of 6.35 crores (Census 2011 population figure for Karnataka is 6.11 crores). While the survey was conducted by H. Kantharaj Commission, the survey report, data and recommendations were submitted by K. Jayaprakash Hegde's Commission in 2024.

Though the survey findings and recommendations were ready by late 2017, Mr. Kantharaj could not submit the report since the member-secretary had not signed it. Subsequently, the Janata Dal (Secular)-Congress coalition government and the BJP government that succeeded it also did not receive the report.

As population figures became clear after the Cabinet received the data, causing tremors in the political landscape, the fault line between the politically dominant Vokkaliga and Veerashaiva-Lingayat communities and other backward class communities became clear. The Cabinet met again on April 17 to discuss the recommendation, but did not decide on the matter. While further debate has been deferred again for May 2, no clear decision on the commission's recommendation is expected. Meanwhile, the issue has reached the doors of the Karnataka High Court.

The data was collected by the commission through government-appointed enumerators in April-May 2015 from about 1.35 crore households. FILE PHOTO

What are the major findings?

The vexed survey is being keenly watched for population figures of castes/communities for political reasons, though its goal had been to provide insights into 'backwardness' that the government could use to develop programmes aimed at uplifting such communities.

The survey has pegged the total population of backward classes in the State to be about 70%.

Muslims are the single largest bloc with about 75.25 lakhs or 12.58% of the total population, followed by Veerashaiva-Lingayats, a dominant and politically strong land-owning community in North and Central Karnataka, with 66.35 lakhs or about 11% of the population.

The population of Vokkaligas, a dominant and politically strong land-owning community in the Old Mysore region, has been put at 61.58 lakhs or about 10.29% of the State's population.

The Scheduled Castes constitute 18.2% or about 1.09 crore of the population, and the Scheduled Tribes number at 7.1% or 43.81 lakhs. Together, both constitute 24.1% of the population. The general category comprising Brahmins, Arya Vaishya, Mudaliars, Nagartharu and a section of Jains are about 29.74 lakhs or about 4.9% of the population.

What has the Hegde Commission recommended?

The commission has recommended an increase in the total reservation matrix for backward classes from the current 32% to 51%. Based on the weightage given to communities on socio-economic and educational parameters, it has recommended re-classification of castes; Instead of the current five categories, it has recommended six. It has proposed the removal of exemption from creamy layer policy for castes in Category 1, which are the 'most backward'.

Kurubas, the politically stronger and perceived to be educationally forward among the backward class communities, have been moved from 'more backward' to 'most backward' category, along with a few other castes. Kurubas constitute 43.72 lakh or about 7.31% of the population. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah belongs to the Kuruba community.

The socio-economic and educational data of the communities are yet to be released. Only the methodology used in the survey, the questionnaire, population data and recommendations for reclassification have been provided to the Cabinet Ministers so far. The government is yet to officially release the report for public discussion.

How have the politically dominant communities reacted?

The dominant communities have rejected the findings of the report outright, stating that they were "unscientific". Both Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha and All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha have sought another survey, questioning the authenticity of the population data.

Citing data from previous commissions, they claimed that Vokkaligas should be around 12% to 14% and Veerashaiva-Lingayats around 17% to 22% of the population. They said that many households from their communities have been left out of the survey, and that there was confusion in enumerating members of sub-castes. The data is too old to be accepted was another complaint.

Cabinet Ministers from these communities have already met separately and closed ranks to register their protest. Moves are afoot for joint meetings of representatives from both communities to plan protests together. Legal avenues are also being explored.

Other communities, including Brahmins, Christians and Yadavas/Gollas, have also stated that their population figures have been under-reported.

How has the commission justified its survey?

The commission said that the survey was scientific and unbiased, and carried out using government machinery. Nearly 5% of the population was left out due to reasons such as migration, being absent at home during enumeration and lack of cooperation.

While enumeration in rural areas was 99% to 100%, cities had a lower percentage, with only Bengaluru hitting 85%, the commission said, noting that even the national Census leaves out 3% of the population. Given the geography and population size, some are bound to be left out, it said.

Are there other issues in the report?

Experts have been critical of the removal of exemption from creamy layer policy to the Category 1 castes that are labelled as the 'most backward' among the backward classes. Among the castes listed in 'most backward' communities are about 50 nomadic and semi-nomadic communities that have neither found representation in government jobs nor the political realm, with literacy levels still lower than 50%.

Eyebrows were raised over moving the Kuruba community from 'more backward' to 'most backward' category. The community has for long been perceived to have taken reservation benefits in education and public employment. They have had good representation in politics too. The report does not provide insights into "adequate representation" that the courts have relied upon to justify the reclassification of categories.

The recommendation of enhanced reservation for OBCs to 51% breaches the Supreme Court's 50% ceiling for reservation. With 24% reservation for SC/ST and 10% EWS (yet to be implemented in Karnataka), the reservation matrix will reach 85%, which could invite legal trouble.

Why has the survey come up for discussion now?

Considered a political minefield, the survey was in cold storage for nearly a decade. The Congress, in its manifesto ahead of 2023 Assembly elections, had promised to accept the findings. Ruling dispensations have been under pressure after Bihar announced its caste census findings. Neighbouring Telangana has gone ahead with enhanced OBC reservation.

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi's nudge during the recently-concluded Congress session at Ahmedabad is believed to have spurred the Congress government here to accept the report. Party insiders also believe that the survey was brought up for discussion by Mr. Siddaramaiah to consolidate his position as leader of backward classes and 'checkmate' Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is said to be waiting on the wings to succeed him.

What happens next?

The State Cabinet is set to discuss the report again on May 2. The discussion so far has been only around the procedures in data collection. Public Works Minister Satish Jharkiholi has indicated that it could be a year before the report is accepted.

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil has said that the Cabinet is no closer to a discussion on the survey report. Speculations are rife over a Cabinet sub-committee being set up to discuss the issue before it is brought to the Cabinet again at a later date.

THE GIST

- The survey has pegged the total population of backward classes in the State to be about 70%. It has listed the population of politically dominant communities of Veerashaiva-Lingayats at 11% and Vokkaligas at 10.29%. Among the Hegde Commission's recommendations are removal of exemption from creamy layer policy for castes in Category 1, termed the 'most backward', and moving the Kurubas from 'more backward' to 'most backward' category.
- The dominant communities have rejected the findings of the report outright, stating that they were "unscientific". Experts have questioned other recommendations, including the one on enhanced reservation for OBCs that will breach the Supreme Court ceiling of 50%.
- Considered a political minefield, the survey was in cold storage for nearly a decade. The State Cabinet is set to discuss the report again on May 2 but it could reportedly be a year before the report is accepted.

INSTITUTE OF LIVER & BILIARY SCIENCES (ILBS)

"CAREER OPPORTUNITIES"

Faculty & Non Faculty posts

(ILBS/Careers/2/25)

Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) is an autonomous super-specialty Institute of excellence under GNCT of Delhi **and a Deemed-to-be-University by the GOI. Its vision is to be a global leader** by becoming a beacon of patient care, teaching and research in the field of Liver, Pancreatobiliary, Renal, Oncology and Organ Transplantation. All appointments shall be on "contract basis" and will initially be for a period of "four years" (except for Residents) and can be extended based on performance. In its search for the best talent, ILBS invites applications for the following positions including backlog:

(A) SPECIAL DRIVE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES * Backlog		
S. No.	**Name of Post**	**Number of Posts**
1.	Senior Resident (Radiology-01, Hepatology -01)	2*-OH
2.	Junior Resident	2*-OH
3.	Resident Medical Officer	1*-OH
4.	Assistant Manager Nurse	1*-OH
5.	Junior Nurse	4*-OH
6.	Executive Nurse	9*-OH
7.	Jr. Executive Nurse	6*-OH
(B) APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR UR, OBC, EWS, SC & ST CATEGORY		
8.	Professor (Hepatology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
9.	Professor (Transplant Hepatology)	1-UR
10.	Professor (Anaesthesia)	1-UR, 1-OBC
11.	Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
12.	Professor (AI Health & Research)	1-UR
13.	Additional Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
14.	Additional Professor (Liver Transplant Surgery)	1-UR
15.	Additional Professor (Anaesthesia)	1-UR
16.	Associate Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
17.	Associate Professor (Liver Transplant Surgery)	2-UR, 1-OBC
18.	Associate Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
19.	Associate Professor (Cardiology)	1-UR
20.	Associate Professor (Radiology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
21.	Associate Professor (Renal Transplant)	1-UR
22.	Associate Professor (Nephrology)	1-UR
23.	Associate Professor (Data Scientist – AI Health)	1-UR
24.	Associate Professor (Pulmonary Medicine)	1-UR
25.	Assistant Professor (Anaesthesia)	1-UR, 1-OBC, 1-SC
26.	Assistant Professor (Critical/Intensive care Med.)	1-UR
27.	Assistant Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
28.	Assistant Professor (Liver Transplant Surgery)	1-UR
29.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Nutrition) Medical	1-UR
30.	Assistant Professor (Radiology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
31.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Genetics)	1-UR
32.	Assistant Professor (Interventional Radiology)	1-UR
33.	Assistant Professor (Gen AI Development-Healthcare Software)	2-UR
34.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Hematology)	1-UR
35.	Assistant Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
36.	Assistant Professor (Psychiatry)	1-UR
37.	Assistant Professor (Nuclear Medicine)	2-UR
38.	Assistant Professor (Statistics)	1-UR
39.	Consultant (Hepatology) Grade IV	4-UR, 1-OBC, 1-SC
40.	Consultant (Medical Oncology) Grade II, III, IV	2-UR, 1-OBC
41.	Consultant (Radiology) Grade I, II, III, IV	3-UR, 1-OBC
42.	Consultant (Neurology) Grade III, IV	2-UR, 1-OBC
43.	Consultant (Liver Transplant Surgery) Grade II, III, IV	2-UR, 1-OBC
44.	Consultant (Cardiology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
45.	Consultant (Anaesthesia) Grade III, IV	1-UR, 1-OBC
46.	Consultant (Renal Transplant) Grade I	1-UR
47.	Consultant (Clinical Hematology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
48.	Consultant (Psychiatry) Grade IV	1-UR
49.	Casualty Medical Officer	1-UR, 2*-OBC, 1-SC
50.	Resident Medical Officer	2-UR, 1-OBC
51.	Senior Resident (Hepatology, Nephrology, Radiology, Medical Oncology, Cardiology, Pulmonary Medicine, Neurology, Renal Transplant)	8-UR, 5*-OBC, 2-SC, 1-ST, 1-EWS
52.	Deputy Head Operations (Medical)	1-UR
53.	Assistant Head Operations (Medical)	1-UR
54.	Senior Manager (Nurse)	1-UR
55.	Manager (Nursing)	1-UR
56.	Manager (Purchase)	1-UR
57.	Manager (Engineering)	1-UR
58.	Assistant Registrar	1-UR
59.	Deputy Manager (Engineering)	1-UR
60.	Assistant Manager (Purchase)	1-UR
61.	Chief Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
63.	Senior Technical Executive (Nuclear medicine) or RSO for High Dose Therapy	2-UR, 1-OBC
63.	Technical Executive (Nuclear Medicine) or RSO II	2-UR
64.	Junior Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
65.	Junior Engineer (Electrical/AC)	2-UR, 1-OBC
66.	Senior Statistician	1-UR
67.	Floor Coordinator	3-UR, 1-OBC, 1-SC
68.	Senior Executive (Academics)	1-UR
69.	Librarian	1-UR
70.	Executive Nurse	28*-OBC, 9*-EWS
71.	Staff Assistant	3-UR, 1-OBC, 1-SC, 1-ST
72.	Executive (Security & Fire)	1-UR, 1-OBC
73.	Senior Technician (Electrical)	1-UR
74.	Junior Executive Nurse	7-UR, 5*-OBC

* including backlog

Last Date: 20th May, 2025. For further details, eligibility criteria and recruitment rules, please visit **http://www.ilbs.in**

Head Operations (Non Medical), ILBS

"HEALTHY LIVER – HEALTHY INDIA"

24 Hr Emergency, Liver Ambulance & Helpline: 9540947084, Ph.: 011-463 00 000

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India

JAYANAGAR MAIN BRANCH

429/31, Ramakrishna Building, 30th Cross, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 011, E-mail : ubin0537942@unionbankofindia.bank

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule - 8 (1)] (For immovable Property)

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Union Bank of India, JAYANAGAR MAIN Branch (537942),** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **11.02.2025** calling upon the Borrowers- **Mr. C Kumaraswamy & Ms.Asha Kumaraswamy** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice of **Rs.51,90,848/- (Rupees Fifty One Lakhs Ninety Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Eight Only)** as on **08.02.2025** plus interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **24th day of April month of the year 2025.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Union Bank of India, Jayanagar Main Branch (537942)** for an amount of **Rs.51,90,848/- (Rupees Fifty One Lakhs Ninety Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Eight only)** as on **08.02.2025** plus interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURED ASSET/S

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.42/2, Assessment No.18/7, Katha No. 111, Hosahalli Gollarapalya village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North taluk, now comes under the limits of BBMP ward No.40, Bangalore and measuring East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 65 feet totally measuring 1950 Sq ft and bounded on: East by : Road, West by : Property belongs to Lakshminarasimhe Gowda, North by : Property belongs to Doddaiah, South by : Property belongs to Thammaiah present properly belongs to Kenchappa.

Date: 24.04.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bengaluru **Union Bank of India**

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Bank of Baroda

Dayananda Sagar College Branch

S.M.Hills, Kumarswamy Layout, Bangalore-560078.

Phone No. 080-2662789, E-mail : vjdasc@bankofbaroda.com

NOTICE TO BORROWER

(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)

'At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Bank of Baroda, Dayananda Sagar College Branch.** The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1.Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: (1) Mr. Rakesh Kumar N A, (2) Mrs Soumya B S, Both are residing at: No.24, Mathrukrupa, 17th Cross, 22nd Main, Near Shamanna Garden, J P Nagar, 5th Phase, Bangalore-560078.

Nature and type of facility	Limit (Rs. In Lakhs)	Rate of Interest	O/s as on 15.04.2025 (inclusive of interest up to 15.04.2025)
Housing loan 74370600001230	Rs. 60,00,000/-	9.05% p.a. at present	Rs. 60.28.252/-
Suvidha Personal loan & 74370600001231	Rs. 3,04,000/-	9.55% p.a. at present	Rs. 3,10,252/-

Amount Outstanding : Rs. 63,38,504/- (Rupees Sixty Three Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Four Only) and other Charges.

NPA Date : 16.04.2025 **Demand Date : 17.04.2025**

Security agreement with brief description of securities: 2 BHK Residential flat bearing flat no 429, 4th floor, Lotus-block "Eden Blossoms" Sy No.33/1, BBMP khata No.134/471/33/1, Gollahalli village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk-560083. Total Super Buildup area:-1155 sq ft with One covered car parking space in stilt floor Boundaries: East: BDA Property, West: 60 ft BDA Road, North: BDA Property, South: 40 ft Road.

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date : 24.04.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Bank of Baroda**

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Bank of Baroda

Banashankari Branch, No 6 & 7/1, 80 ft Road, BSK 1st Stage, Opp. Srinivasanagar Bus Stop, Banashankari, Bangalore 560050.Ph.: 9981427077, 26792646, Fax: 26799988 e-mail: banash@bankofbaroda.com

NOTICE TO BORROWER

(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)

'At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Bank of Baroda, Banashankari Branch.** The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1.Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: (1) M/s. Sunil Enterprises, Prop: Mr Sunil C C, No 10/2-38,1st Cross, Rudrappa Garden, Mysore Road, Kasturiba Nagar, Government Electric Factory, Bengaluru-560026. **Guarantor : Mr. Basavaraj R,** No. 252/A, 1st Cross Doddagowdanpalya, Subramaniyapura, Post Uttarahalli, Near Raghavendra Service Station Bengaluru-560061.

Sl No	Nature And Type of Facility	Limit (Rs.) In lakhs	Rate of Interest	O/s as on 03.03.2025 (inclusive of interest up to 03.03.2025) (Rs.) In lakhs
01	27710400000184 Overdraft	47.00	10.55%	Rs. 47,76,933.73

Security Agreement: Equitable Mortgage of all that piece and parcel of the Immovable bearing Site No. 22, Old Assessment No,. 56, Present Assessment No. 56/1, BBMP KHata No. 56/56/1/22, Situated in Manjunath Nagar, Ankappa Layout, Chikkallasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560061 East to West: 40 feet, and North to South: 40 feet. measuring total 1600 Sq. Feet and bounded on: East by: Site No. 16, West by: 20 Feet Road North by Site No. 21. South by Site No. 23.

Amount Outstanding : 47.76 Lakhs (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Only) with future interest thereon.

NPA Date : 02.03.2025 **Demand Notice Date : 03.03.2025**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date : 24.04.2025 **Sd/- Chief Manager**
Place : Bengaluru **Bank of Baroda**

KVB Karur Vysya Bank *Smart way to bank*

ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH

Divisional Office Building
No.6 Shri Vasavi Temple Road, Near Sajjan Rao Circle, V V Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560004

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, The **Karur Vysya Bank Ltd,** the constructive/physical (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd., Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **13.05.2025, for recovery of Rs. 2,61,11,581.52 (Rupees Two Crore Sixty One Lakhs Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Eighty One and Paise Fifty Two only)** with interest and expenses thereon from the borrower from **(1) Mr. Amruth Shetty** S/o Mr. Shankar Shetty, Residing at No. 310, 3rd Floor, Krishna Apartment, No. 12, 1st A Cross, 1st Main Road, Chikkadugodi, Bangalore-560029; **(2) Mr. Mohan Rao B (Guarantor),** S/o.Venkata Krishna, Residing at No.61, Jayanna House, 8th Main, 1st Cross, Hosur Main Road, Hosapalaya, Bangalore-560068. The reserve price Schedule- A Property is **Rs 60,00,000 /- (Rupees Sixty Lakhs only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs.6,00,000/- (Rupees Six Lakhs only).**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Schedule-A: Apartment/ Residential Unit No. 180/29B also known as unit I, (presently bearing E Khata No. 180/29B, SL No. 15020102701020738), on the Second floor of VAISHNAVI ANANTYA, formed in Sy No 119/2, duly converted vide Order No. ALN (A) (SH) SR 98A/2011-12 being constructed on Schedule A property in the terms of Sanction Plan, vide LAO 91/11-12 dated 10.02.2021, situated at S. Medahalli village, Handenahalli Village Panchayath, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, measuring 2560.756 sq feet of super buildup area & 1166.71 sq feet of UDS Covered car parking space measuring 270 sq ft and bounded on the: East by: Passage, West by: Apartment No. 180/30, South by: Passage and Apartment No. 180/14B and North by: Road.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in our Bank's/ Secured Creditor's website **i.e., www.kvb.co.in/Property Under Auction** and also at the web portal **BankAuctions.in/ForeclosureIndia.com** of the service provider, **M/s. 4 closure.**

Statutory 15 days' Notice under Rule 9(1) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

The borrower/s and guarantor/s are hereby notified to pay the dues as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the Schedule property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date : 24.04.2025 **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place: Bangalore **The Karur Vysya Bank Limited**

KVB Karur Vysya Bank *Smart way to bank*

THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD

ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH
Divisional Office Building, No.6, Shri Vasavi Temple Road, Near Sajjan Rao Circle, V V Puram, Bangalore - 560004

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd,** the constructive/ physical (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.,** Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **14.05.2025, for recovery of Rs. 11,36,61,017.88 (Rupees Eleven Crore Thirty Six Lakhs Sixty One Thousand Seventeen and Paise Eighty Eight only)** due to **"The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd",** Secured Creditor from **(1) M/s. Blue Whale Machinery Technologies Pvt Ltd, Rep By: Mr. Deepak Dhirajlal Mehta (Director), Mrs.Rina Mehta (Director)** Having Registered Office at: No. 284, 2nd Floor, between 17th and 18th Cross, Sampige Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560003, **(2) Mr. Deepak Dhirajlal Mehta,** S/o. Dhirajlal Mehta and **(3) Mrs.Rina Mehta,** W/o. Mr. Deepak Dhirajlal Mehta both residing at B 103, "Pride Pavilion", 2/1, Service Road, 1st Stage, 6th Phase, West of Chord Road, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010. The reserve price will be **Rs. 25,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five lakhs only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Fifty Thousand only).**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Commercial Unit situated at "S.J. Towers", portion of the Second Floor, Corporation No. 30/6-1, Mission Road, Corporation Division No. 73, Bangalore, measuring 756 sq feet with UDS of 148 sq feet bounded on : East By: Mr. Chunnilal's Property, West By: Mr. Arshiwala's Property, North By: Mr. Kanakasabhapathy's Property and South By: Mission Road.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in our Bank's/ Secured Creditor's website i.e **www.kvb.co.in/Property** Under Auction also at the web portal **BankAuctions.in/ForeclosureIndia.com** of the service provider, **M/s. 4 closure.**

Statutory 15 Days' Notice under Rule 9(1) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

The borrower/s and guarantor/s are hereby notified to pay the dues as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the Schedule property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date :24.04.2025 **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place: Bangalore **THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LIMITED**

झारखण्ड सरकार
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
कम्बाइंड बिल्डींग, ओल्ड चास कोट एरिया, बोकारो

ई– अल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई– निविदा संख्या :- 29/RI/2024-25/RWD/EE/BOKARO दिनांक–23.04.2025

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, बोकारो द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडेन्टी फिकेशन संख्या/पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेण्डर कॉल नं0
1	RWD/EE/BOKARO/ 72/2024-25	चमसोबाद लक्ष्मण बाउरी के घर से लेकर हुचुकडीह लक्खीराम गोप के घर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई– 1.100 कि0मी0)।	1,48,59,300.00	एक करोड़ अड़तालीस लाख उनसठ हजार तीन सौ रू0 मात्र	09 माह	द्वितीय

2. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:– 29.04.2025
3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :– 08.05.2025 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– 10.05.2025 अपराह्न 03.30 बजे।
5. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, बोकारो, कम्बाइंड बिल्डींग, सिविल एस0डी0ओ0, ऑफिस ओल्ड चास कोट एरिया, चास बोकारो, झारखंड, पिन– 827013
6. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0– 9431060119

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
PR 350934 (Rural Work Department)25-26*D ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग कार्य प्रमंडल, बोकारो

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा
Email Id:rdsdjmt@gmail.com

अल्पकालीन पुर्ननिविदा ई0–निविदा आमंत्रण संख्या–RDD/SD/JAMTARA/RE5/09/2024-25/Gr.No.-04

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :–

क्र0 सं0	गु0प नं0	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मुल्य	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	4	जामताड़ा जिला अन्तर्गत प्रखण्ड नारायणपुर के पंचायत–सबनपुर में मंझलाडीह दाडंगडीह और आहारडीह के बीच जोरिया में पुल निर्माण।	21687200.00	434000.00	10000.00	15 माह

2. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :–दिनांक–26.04.2025
3. ई0–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय :–दिनांक–26.04.2025 से दिनांक–05.05.2025 (अपराह्न 5:00 बजे)
4. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा की स्वीकार्य होगी।
5. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो सारी जबावदेही संबंधित निविदादाता की होगी।
6. निविदा खोलने का स्थानः–e-Procurement Cell, कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा।
7. निविदा खुलने की तिथि एवं समय :–दिनांक–07.05.2025 (अपराह्न 2:00 बजे)
8. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :–कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा।
9. ई0–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दुरभाष संख्या :–9973957543
10. अधोहस्ताक्षरी/सक्षम पदाधिकारी को किसी भी निविदा को बिना कारण बताये रद्द करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित रहेंगा तथा निविदादाता को कारण पृच्छा का अधिकार मान्य नहीं होगा।
11. B.O.Q की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है, तदनुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.पद एवं कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

ह0/–
कार्यपालक अभियंता
PR.NO.350991 Rural Development(25-26):D ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा।

BEFORE THE HON'BLE II ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BENGALURU

(CCH-17)

A.P. No. 15 / 2021

National Highways Authority of India ...Petitioner
Project Implementation Unit - Bangalore
Sy No. 13, 14th KM, Nagasandra,
Bangalore - Tumkur Road (NH-4)
Bangalore - 560073
Represented by its Project Director.
V/S
Sri. K N. Ashok and Others ... Respondents

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT NO.1 UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908

Respondent No. 1: Sri. K.N. Ashok
S/o Late K.N. Narayan,
Aged Major
Residing at No. 20/3, 10th Cross,
Shantinagar, Bangalore-560 027

Whereas the Petitioner above named has filed the above petition under Section 34 (2) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 before the Hon'ble II Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge At Bengaluru (CCH-17) seeking setting aside of the common arbitral award dated 17th March 2020 passed in Case No. LAQ/ARB/NH-7/CR/6/2017-18 pertaining to Sy. No. 66 acquired to an extent of 2,313 Sq.ft situated at Kadiganahalli Village, Bangalore North Taluk, Jala Hobli acquired vide Final Notification bearing S.O. No. 829 (E) dated 22nd July 2003. You are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader on the **6th day of June 2025** at 11'o clock to answer the same, failing which the Petition will be disposed of ex parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 17th day of February 2025.

SINGHANIA & PARTNERS
SOLICITORS AND ADVOCATES
 # 701 & 702, PRESTIGE MERIDIAN II
NO. 30, M. G ROAD
BANGALORE-560001

By order of the Court
Senior Sheristadar
City Civil Court
Bangalore

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221

E-Open Tender Notice No.:- S/RWP/E/2025-26/02 dated: 22.04.2025, Principal Chief Materials Manager/Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the **President of India** invites **online "e-Open Tender",** through Indian Railways E-Procurement Website **www.ireps.gov.in**, for supply of following Stores item at RWP/Bela. The closing time of all tenders is 14:00 hrs., **SN : 1, Tender No. :** 01245389, **Short Description of item :** Supply, erection, commissioning, transformer, **Quantity :** 01 set, **Date of Tender Closing/Opening :** 20/05/2025 at 14:00 Hrs., 1. Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is **www.ireps.gov.in**. 2. The prospective firms/bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with the above website for updates including **Addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation** with respect to the above tender. However, this information will also be invariably published in the all concerned newspapers.

For PCMM/RWP/Bela
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2025-26/14

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase a plot in the project, bearing **No.194,** measuring East to West 12.19 Mtr, North to South 9.14 mtr, totally measuring **111.42 Square Meter, (1199.32 sq.feet)** carved out of residentially converted land bearing **Sy.No.107/2,** in the residential layout called as **"MANYATA EKAMARA",** situated at **Chambenahalli village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru,** from its owner **M/s. Manyata Builders.**

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/ claims with documentary evidence within **10 days** from the date of this publication, to the undersigned.

K.V. Narendra & Associates
Advocates
No. 557, 2nd Floor, 9th 'A' Main, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038
Call: 9945109229 / 9591067392.

CENTRAL RAILWAY

SOLAPUR DIVISION

Electrical Department
E-TENDER NOTICE

The Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD), Central Railway, Solapur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online e-tenders on Railways e-procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from reputed, experienced & licensed Electrical contractors for the following works. **Tender No. SUR/TD/T/2024/16R1 Name of work:** Electrical TRD portion of work in connection with Provision of safety fencing (ACB & Fixed knot fencing) along the track under 1) CPWI/DUD from SUR-AKOR 2) CPWI/DUD from AKOR-DUD 3) CPWI/KLBG Part-1 (DUD-HHD) 4) CPWI/KLBG Part-2 (HHD-HQR) 5) CPWI/SDB (Re-invitation) **Estimated cost:-** ₹1,29,85,304.22 Bid Security:- ₹2,14,900/- **Completion Period:-** 12 months **Validity of offer:-** 60 Days **Date & time of tender closing on website:-** 20/05/2025 at 15:00 hours. **ANJ-47**

खतरनाक व विस्फोटक सामान के साथ यात्रा करना दंडनीय अपराध है

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the public that my client Sri. Manjunath P.R., Smt.Doddam Vijayamma, Sri.Paidakula Ramakrishna & Mrs. Tharuni Latha A.are intending to purchase the immovable Property bearing New Municipal No.80, having BBMP PID No. 100-738-80, Site No. 80 (Corner), Situated at Postal Colony, 5th Main, 1st Cross road, Sanjaynagar, (formerly known as Geddalahalli Village) Falling under New Ward No. 19, Old Ward No. 100, BBMP, Bengaluru City measuring on the East by: 50'0" (Fifty) ft., on the West:50'0" (Fifty) ft, on the North:36'6" (Thirty Six Feet and Six Inches), on the South:40'0" (Forty) ft., total measuring 177.91 Sq. Meter totally measuring 2400 square feet from its owner Sri. Hemanth Agaram Chidambara Rao.

If anybody or any authority having any right, title, claims, interest or objections over the same, may file their objections with documents to below mentioned address within 7 days from the date of this public notice. Failing which my client will proceed topurchase the above said Property by treating no one has objections in respect of the said properties.

Date: 22.04.2025
Bangalore

Subrahmanya Hegde Advocate
ANANDA & HEGDE LAW ASSOCIATES
#76-77, Krishna Krupa Building
Ground Floor, 2nd Main Road
Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-20.
Mob: 9060069259.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners **SRI.K.MAHAVEER CHAND** S/o late M.Keval Chand; his wife **SMT.INDRA KANVAR.M** and three sons **SRI.SANJAY KUMAR.M, SRI.NITESH KUMAR.M and SRI.RAKESH KUMAR.M,** all residing at: No.29, "AASHIRWAD", Mahantha Layout, Bull Temple Road Cross, Chamarajpete, Bengaluru – 560018.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.29 (old No.23), PID No.49-5-29, E.P.I.D No.2182601362, measuring East to West 40ft and North to South on the Eastern side 45ft and on the Western side 43ft 6 inches, in all measuring 1770 Sq.ft, together with a building thereon, situated at Mahantha Layout, Kempegowdanagar, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Property No.22
West by : Property No.24
North by : Conservancy
South by : Road

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

Now, PGETA scores to determine MArch admissions

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has decided that admissions to postgraduate architecture (MArch) programmes in the State will now be based on the scores of the national-level Postgraduate Entrance Test in Architecture (PGETA) conducted by the Council of Architecture.

Until now, KEA used to conduct its own entrance exam (PGCET) and allot seats based on the scores from that test.

Starting this year, the rule has been changed; candidates must now appear for the national-level test to participate in the local admission process, said KEA executive director H. Prasanna in a press statement.

Last year, 136 seats were available for this course, and 127 candidates applied. However, only 28 candidates actually took admission, he added.

Karnataka to start 'i-Code Labs' in select government schools

Initiative to provide computer education to students right from the school level, from the academic year 2025-26

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Students in government schools are being deprived of computer education due to lack of computers, Internet, electricity, and other facilities. FILE PHOTO

The Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) has taken steps to start 'i-Code Labs' in select government schools across Karnataka to provide computer education to students right from the school level, from the academic year 2025-26.

The i-Code Labs will be set up in collaboration with Agasthya Foundation to introduce coding for students of government schools to keep pace with the changing technology.

Currently, almost all private schools are providing computer education and training to students with good computer labs.

However, students in government schools are being deprived of computer education due to lack of computers, internet facilities, electricity and other facilities.

Out of about 43,000 government schools across Karnataka, only about 1,500 schools have full-fledged computer labs. Computer education is not being systematically taught to students of these schools.

To ensure free computer education to all children in government schools, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had made this announcement in the State budget for 2025-26.

Under this project, 63 select schools with Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilities will be identified as 'hubs', benefiting 756 'spoke schools', which will be directly connected to the central 'hub' school.

K.V. Trilok Chandra, Commissioner of Public Instruction, told *The Hindu*, "As announced by the Chief Minister, steps have been taken to set up i-Code Labs in select government schools. An order will be issued soon. The project will be implemented from the academic year of 2025-26.

"In the first phase, computer education will be provided to students from classes 6 to 10. Students will be taught computer basics, coding, and de-coding. Coding is basically logical thinking, which will help the students think logically in other subjects as well. Currently, about 1,500 government schools across Karnataka have computer labs with ICT systems," he added.

HC faults govt., Lokayukta over action against BBMP engineer

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has found fault in the action of the State government as well as the Lokayukta in initiating disciplinary proceedings against an engineer for not acting against an illegal building situated in Hombegowda ward, while pointing out that the engineer could not take further action as a tribunal had ordered maintenance of status quo with respect to the illegal construction.

"An officer of the State is required to abide by the orders of courts and tribunals. If there is an order of such a court and tribunal restraining the officer from performing any particular action, the non-performance thereof cannot be said to be a dereliction of duty," the court observed.

Justice Suraj Govidaraj passed the order while quashing the disciplinary proceedings against B.S. Sandeep, who was working as an assistant executive engineer in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike during 2013.

The BBMP issued both preliminary and final notification with respect to an illegally constructed building in August 2013 but it could not go ahead with the demolition as the Karnataka Administrative Tribunal in November 2013 directed the BBMP to maintain status quo on the nature of the building.

Suo motu probe

Meanwhile, the Lokayukta had taken *suo motu* probe into construction of various properties, including the one involved in the present case, and found that the jurisdictional officers/engineers of the BBMP had failed to act against this illegal construction.

Based on the Lokayukta's preliminary report, the government initiated departmental enquiry against the officer, including the petitioner, and entrusted the task of enquiry to the Lokayukta during 2016.

However, the court found that the tribunal's order of status quo was in force when the Lokayukta gave the preliminary report, when the government initiated departmental enquiry in March 2016, and when the Lokayukta issued chargesheet to the petitioner in July 2016.

When the petitioner and the BBMP was restrained from acting owing to the tribunal's order, disciplinary proceedings could not have been initiated against him, the court said.

INBRIEF

Gold smuggling: SC issues notice to accused on ED's plea

The Supreme Court on Thursday issued notices to four accused on a plea of the Enforcement Directorate seeking transfer of the trial in a gold smuggling case from Kerala to Karnataka.

A Bench took note of the submissions of Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju, appearing for the anti-money laundering probe agency, and sought responses of the accused within six weeks and listed the plea for hearing in July after the summer vacation. The law officer said the Central probe agency will have to make other remaining accused parties to the petition.

Home Dept. told to be vigilant on foreign nationals overstaying

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that instructions have been issued to the Home Department to be vigilant regarding foreign nationals overstaying in Karnataka.

Mr. Siddaramaiah was speaking to reporters at M.M. Hills in Chamarajanagar district, where he would chair a cabinet meeting and take part in a slew of other programmes.

The Chief Minister said, "As far as terrorists are concerned, the State government will extend all support to the Centre to crush terrorism. Eliminating terrorists, regardless of the State they are in, is the responsibility of the Central government."

Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack, Mr. Siddaramaiah said it was highly condemnable and inhumane. "Security should have been stepped up after the Pulwama attack. The attack is a pointer to intelligence failure," the Chief Minister said.

Initiating counter measures after an incident was different from taking preventive measures, and the Centre should have done it, said Mr. Siddaramaiah.

In the Pulwama attack, 40 soldiers lost their lives. In the Pahalgam terror attack, 28 civilians have died. Preventive steps should have been taken. Such incidents should not be allowed to recur, and caution is necessary. Regardless of their religion, all terrorists must be eliminated. The government will provide all necessary cooperation and support on this," said Mr. Siddaramaiah.

A compensation of ₹10 lakh each was being given to the families of the victims from Karnataka who were killed in the terrorist attack. Instructions have been issued to the authorities concerned that the funerals should be conducted with police honours, he added.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
DIVISION KOPPAL. Phone No:08539-222318.email:eepwdkpl2@gmail.com
IFT No. PWD:DK:DB:KW-2,3&4:2025-26/271 **Date: 24-04-2025.**

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-2,3&4 on **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : KKRDB Macro Institutional-General, KKRDB Macro Institutional-SCP, KKRDB Macro Institutional-TSP & 8443-Deposit Contribution /2024-25.** Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. 08539 – 222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** 16 Works (Work Indent No: 10646, 20306, 20584, 20586, 20815, 20562, 20816, 20810, 20573, 20392, 20545, 20564, 20813, 20703, 21532 & 19857). Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **09-05-2025 Time 13.00,** Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **12-05-2025 Time 13.30.** Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **15-05-2025 Time 11.00.** Minimum & Estimate Maximum Amount Rs. 5.21.00 Lakhs & Rs. 100.00 Lakhs respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification, for reservation of category & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in KPPP portal.

DIPR/Koppal/47/KSMCA/2025-26 **Sd/- EE, PWD Division, Koppal**

Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited
(A Government Undertaking)
CIN :U70100KA2015SGC081817
Karnataka One State, Many worlds Department of Tourism
No. 3, 4th Floor, Embassy Icon, Infantry Road, Bangalore - 560001, Ph. 080- 22352525

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಐ.ಎಲ್/ಯೋ–1/ಕ.ವಿ/ರಾ.ಜೆ/01/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: **24.04.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited, Bangalore Invited the Respective Tenders for Development of Karnataka Tourism at (Karnataka public procurement portal) **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The details of the Tender & Calendar of Events are available at **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Portal.

Sl. No	Work Name	Indent No
1.	Conservation work for comprehensive development of historic Mecca Darwaz Fort near Raichur Nagar Bus Stand, Raichur District.(estimated cost Rs.100.00 lakhs) Call-3 (Short term Tender)	KTIL/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT28
2.	Development work of Ecological Experience Zone at Chamarajendra Zoo, Karanji Kere, and the Regional Museum of Natural History at Mysuru, under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme. (Estimated cost Rs. 1874.85 lakhs). Call-3 (Short term Tender)	KTIL/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT29

Tender Details are available for download in E-procurement Portal **(https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from **Dt:24.04.2025 and Dt:28.04.2025** respectively. Postponement of Calendar of events (if any), subsequent notification, changes, amendments and selection/rejection of proposal shall be intimated only through Karnataka public procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers. KTIL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer and Tender Inviting Authority,
Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited

DIPR/CP/345/Zen/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(District Urban Development Cell)
Kalaburagi District, Kalaburagi, Telephone No: 08472 – 278604 Fax no: 08472 – 278602
E-mail: ka.kalaburagi.dudc@gmail.com & itstaff_dudc_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No.DUDC/Amrut Nagarothana(Mun)-4/INC 5%/87/2024-25 Date: 23.04.2025

-: TENDER NOTIFICATION :-

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Deputy Commissioner Office Kalaburagi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal in two cover system using KW-4 document from Eligible PWD Civil Contractors for Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality)-4 Incentive 5% Grant Kalaburagi District Package works as detailed below:-

1) Description of Work : Construction of CC Road and RCC Drain at ward no 13, 14, 17 and Construction Compound wall to Garden at Ganesh Nagar at ward no 16, Construction of CC Road and RCC Drain at ward no 19, 21, 22 and Improvements to garden opp Basavanna temple and Garden in Infosys Colony at ward no 23, Construction of CC Road and RCC Drain at ward no1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and Construction of RO Plant at ward no 6, Construction of CC Road and RCC Drain at ward no 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 in Sedam Town.TENDER NO:- **DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT38912,** Amount put to Tender (Rs. In Lakhs): **169.46 (Excluding GST),** EMD Amount (Rs.) : **2,55,000/-,** Class of Contractor : **Eligible PWD registered contractor,** Period of completion excluding rainy season : **12 Months from the date of award**

2) Description of Work : Construction of Welcome Gate to Bijapur Road Shapur Road Kalburagi Road Starting from ULB Limits Beautification and Road Wedding work from Fire station to Taluka Stadium RCC Drain construction in Sy no 1 ward no 19 ward 12 ward no 5 and BD Layout RCC Road construction in Ward no 1 ward no 23 in ward no 22 RCC Slab in Khaja Colony to near Dr.A P J Abdul Kalam School and RCC Road Construction near Nilkanth House and from Khaja Colony to Urdu school behind Drain construction in Jewargi Town. TENDER NO:- **DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT39206,** Amount put to Tender (Rs. In Lakhs) : **169.36 (Excluding GST)**, EMD Amount (Rs.) : **2,55,000/-,** Class of Contractor : **Eligible PWD registered contractor,** Period of completion excluding rainy season : **12 Months from the date of award**

Contractors can download and submit the tenders from dated: 23.04.2025 through Karnataka Public Procurement portal at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **06.05.2025 upto 5.30 PM,** 2) Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders: **07.05.2025 upto 5.30 PM**, 3) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **09.05.2025 at 11.00 AM**, 4) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid: **16.05.2025 at 11.00 AM**

Postponement of Calender of events (or if any information is only published through e-Procurement portal only) and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DUDC Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/59/KSMC&A/2025-26

Karur Vysya Bank Smart way to bank
THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH
Divisional Office Building, No.6, Shri Vasavi Temple Road, Near Sajjan Rao Circle, V V Puram, Bangalore - 560004

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd,** the constructive/physical (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.,** Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **14.05.2025 for recovery of Rs. 1,17,44,384.69/- (Rupees One Crore Seventeen Lakhs Fourty Four Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Four Paisa Sixty-Nine only)** due to **"The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd",** Secured Creditor from **Shri. BHASKAR G N,** S/o Mr. Nagaiah, **residing at** A88/155/2, 1st Cross, Chikka beguru, Begur, Bangalore– 560068. The reserve price will be **Rs.28,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs only)** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs. 2,80,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs and Eighty Thousand only)**

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential apartment bearing Flat no. 303 (2 BHK), in Second floor, west facing, measuring, 1200 sqft of super builtup area, in the apartment building known as "DEVI GRAND VIEW" together with 223 sqft of undivided share situated at Site No. 19 and 20, old Khatha No. 24/1 & 24/2 then BBMP Khatha No. 998/24/1/19 and 987/38/24/1/24/2/20, present Khatha No. 998/24/1/24/2/19 & 20 Uttarahalli, Puttenahalli Ward No. 187, Sarakkikere, Bangalore, On the East by :Private Property, On the West by: Corridor, On the North by: Flat No. 304, On the South by: Private Property.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in our Bank's/ Secured Creditor's website i.e **www.kvb.co.in/Property** Under Auction also at the web portal **BankAuctions.in/ForeclosureIndia.com** of the service provider, **M/s. 4 closure.**

Statutory 15 Days' Notice under Rule 9(1) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

The borrower/s and guarantor/s are hereby notified to pay the dues as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the Schedule property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date : 24.04.2025 **Sd/- Authorized Officer**
Place: Bangalore **THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LIMITED**

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Union Bank of India
A Government of India Undertaking
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH, BENGALURU NORTH
No.1234, 1st Floor, 4th Main, Opp: Chandra Layout Bus Stop,Chandra Layout, Bengaluru – 560 040.
Mail ID:arb.bengalurunorth@unionbankofindia.bank, Mobile: 90032 23669

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 30 days Sale of immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic Possession which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India (secured Creditor) will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is " and "whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union bank of India from the below mentioned Borrowers and Guarantors. The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

1. Union Bank of India, Cook Town Branch (Now account transferred to Asset Recovery Branch Bengaluru North),
Name and address of the Borrower, Co-Applicant and Guarantor: Borrowers: 1) Mr.G.Balaraju, No 7 2 2nd Cross, Kempiah Block Palace, Orchades Palace Guttahalli, Bengaluru-562157. **2).M/s Sindhu Cargo Services Pvt Ltd.,** (In CIRP represented By IRP Ms. CA Shirley Mathew) Block No.3, Sindhu Logistics , Park, No.34, Nellakunte, Near MVIT College, Bettahalasuru, Hunasemaranahalli Post, Bengaluru-562157. (For Information), **Also At: Ms. C A Shirley Mathew** (RP- M/s Sindhu Cargo Services Pvt Ltd) Registered valuer& Insolvency Professional # 31, wheeler Road Extension, St. Thomas Town, Bangalore-560084. **Guarantors 2(a) Mr.G.Balaraju,** Chairman & Managing Director(Suspended), No 72 2nd Cross, Kempiah Block, Palace Orchades Palace Guttahalli, Bengaluru-562157. **2(b) Mrs.Vedavathi Balaraju, 2 (c) Mr.B.Gopalappa,** Both Are Residing At. No.7/2, "AABHYUDAY", 2nd Cross, Kempaiah Block, Lower Palace, Guttahalli, Bengaluru-560003. **2(D). Mr Vikram Prabhakar S/O Late B L Prabhakar.** No.655/6, 7th Cross, Bandappa street, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore – 560 022. **Amount due: Rs.5,78,31,000.68/-(Rupees Five crore seventy eight lakh thirty one thousand and paise sixty eight only)** as on interest debited till 31.03.2025 + Future interest + Other expenses.

Description of Property:
Property No: 1: Vacant land admeasuring 5802 Sft, situated at Plot Nos.14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 in Sy No 146, Amani kandavara kere Village, Nandhi Hobli, Chickaballapur Taluk, Kolar District, belonging to Mr G Balaraju S/O Mr B Gopalappa. **Plot Number 14 –** 1305 Sq Ft and bounded by **East :** Site No 11 & 12, **West :** 20 Feet Road, **North :** Sundarraj"s Property, **South :** Site No 15. **Plot Number 15 –** 1350 Sq Ft. and bounded by: **East :** Site No 12 & 13, **West :** 20 Feet Road, **North :** Site No 14, **South :** 25 Feet Road, **Pot Number 16 –** 1062 Sq. Ft and bounded by: **East :** 20 Feet Road, **West :** Shed in Sy no 144, **North :** Sundarraj"s Land, **South :** Site No 17. **Plot Number 17 –** 1065 Sq.Ft and bounded by: **East :** 20 Feet Road, **West :** Shed in Sy No 144, **North :** Site No 16, **South :** Site No 18. **Plot Number 18 –** 1020 Sq.Ft and bounded by: **East :** 20 feet Road, **West :** Shed in Sy No 144, **North :** Site No 17, **South :** 20 Feet Road.
Property No: 2 - Vacant land admeasuring 5300 Sq.Ft situated in Sy No 128/3, Khata No 1042/451, Old Khata No 617/4, Palanahalli, Kattigenahalli Dhakale, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore belonging to Mr G Balaraju S/O Mr B. Gopalappa and bounded by **North :** 35 Feet Road in Sy No 128/3 **South :** Road & Thereafter Kogilu Village Boundary **East :** Land in Sy No 128/3 Sold in favour of Smt Nirmala **West :** Land in Sy No 128/3 Retained by the Vendor.
Property No: 3 Flat No.101 & 106 in 1st Floor , B-Block, **"Connection Point"** Apartment, Khata No 792/1, 792/2,792/3,and 792/4, Civil Aviation Road, Konena Agrahara, Bangaluru. Undivided share of land is 501.50sq.ft and the property belonging to Mr G Balaraju S/O Sri Gopalappa & builtup area is 1760. **Flat No 101** – 840 Sq.Ft - UDS – 239.50 Sq.Ft and bounded by : **East :** Front Porch **West :** Passage **North :** Property No 5/1 **South :** Passage. **Flat No 106** – 920 Sq.Ft – UDS – 262.00 Sq Ft. and Bounded by **East :** Front Porch **West :** Passage **North :** Property No 5/1 **South :** Passage.
Property No: 4: Vacant Land admeasuring 216 Sq.Mtrs situated at Sy No 1283, 1st Main, 6th Stage, Banashankari, Bangalore belonging to Mrs. Vedavathi Balaraju W/o Mr. G Balaraju measuring East to West 12 Meters and North to south 18 Meters and Bounded by **North :** Plot No 1300, **South :** Road, **East :** Plot No 1282, **West :** Plot No 1284.
Property No: 5: Residential land and Building (Stilt+Ground+2 Floors) situated at D No 655/6, Prabhakar Mansion, Muncipal No 3:1:7, PID No. 3-66-3/1-7, 7th Cross Road, New PID No. 037-W0179-2/1, Bandappa Road, Yeshwanthpura, Bangalore belonging to Mr Vikram Prabhakar S/o Late B L Prabhakar. Built up area :9,500 Sq.Ft, Site Area : 1965 Sq.Ft and bounded by **East :** 5 Feet Galli Road & B L Chandrashekar's Property **West :** Sri Jayaramareddy & his Children;s Property(Presently Mr Vikram & Mrs. Aishwarya"s Property) **North :** Common Passage and Road, **South :** Vallabharaya's House Property.

Reserve Price:	EMD:	Bid Increment :
Property No: 1 : Rs.47,00,000/-	Property No: 1: Rs.4,70,000/-	Property No: 1: Rs.50,000/-
Property No: 2: Rs.1,59,00,000/-	Property No: 2: Rs.15,90,000/-	Property No: 2: Rs.1,00,000/-
Property No: 3: Rs.1,13,00,000/-	Property No: 3: Rs.11,30,000/-	Property No: 3: Rs.1,00,000/-
Property No: 4: Rs.1,40,00,000/-	Property No: 4: Rs.14,00,000/-	Property No: 4: Rs.1,00,000/-
Property No: 5:Rs.2,76,00,000/-	Property No: 5: Rs.27,60,000/-	Property No: 5: Rs.1,00,000/-

Type of Possession: Symbolic Possession

The details of encumbrances, if any known to the Secured Creditor: NIL, However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiry regarding the encumbrances, any pending court cases against the property, title of the property put to auction and the claims / rights/ dues affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. Once the sale is confirmed, no request will be considered for cancellation of the sale/refund of the sale price paid by H1 bidder, whatsoever.

Date of Sale Notice: 22.04.2025
Account bearing Number: **800001980050000** A/C Name: Inward RTGS IFSC Code: UBIN0580007
Contact: Asset Recovery Branch, Bengaluru North, No. 1234, Ist Floor, 4th Main, Opp. To Chandra Layout Bus Stop, Bengaluru-560040, **E-mail: arb.bengalurunorth@unionbankofindia.bank**

Last date of EMD submission:
On or before the commencement of e-auction
Date & Time of E-auction: 30.05.2025 (Friday)
from 12.00 Noon to 5.00 P.M with 10 min unlimited auto extensions

Note: (1) The intending purchaser required to register through https://baanknet.com and https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/auction-property/view-auction-property.aspx.
The amount of EMD (10%) should be paid through the Website https://baanknet.com and the balance amount of sale price should be paid through the Account Number mentioned in the Sale Notice. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided as mentioned below banks website and e-auction agent website. Digital Signature is not mandatory.

www.unionbankofindia.co.in	https://baanknet.com

Date: 22.04.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bengaluru **Union Bank Of India**

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Posters of Triangle of Sandness and Squid Game. WIKIPEDIA

All bark no bite: The toothless critiques of Hollywood's anti-capitalist media

Society's collective thirst for catharsis is answered by Hollywood with superficial satires that shrink from addressing larger socio-economic structures that divide the haves from the have-nots; it seems that the cinema-going audience is itself the object of this satire

Tamma Moksha

Overcoming the one-inch tall barrier that most vernacular language films get buried under, Bong Joon Ho's *Parasite* took home four Oscars at the 92nd Academy Awards in 2020, including Best Picture, becoming the first non-English film to do so. The lockdowns that followed soon after restricted the masses to the four walls of their houses as they lost $3.7 trillion while the billionaires gained $3.9 trillion, making the dichotomy between the Kim family and the Park family ever more so relevant.

The sting of a crumbling health infrastructure and the absence of social security schemes ushered in an anti-capitalist sentiment into the social consciousness of the young. Subsequent wars, a genocide, and an ongoing trade war highlighted the fragility of the modern economic apparatus, leaving the proletariat craving for catharsis. Hollywood production studios took a hint and rose to the occasion. Nodding their heads in agreement to Slavoj Žižek's proclamation that anti-capitalism is widely disseminated in capitalism, they pumped millions of dollars into manufacturing content that disapproved of the current economic order, and film festivals in turn have honoured them.

Superficial satire abounds

Two-time Palme d'Or winner Ruben Östlund's *Triangle of Sadness* follows a group of wealthy elites whose lives spiral into chaos after their cruise ship sinks and they are left stranded on an isolated island. To market the film, the trailer of the movie quoted blurbs from reviews that alluded to the anti-capitalist bend of the movie. Promising a revolution, Mr. Östlund subjected the audience to hollow satirical whimpers that sink with the ship halfway through the movie. Right as water starts flooding the beast, for a moment, it feels like a new dawn is possible.

However, our hopes are dashed when Abigail, a low-ranked staff member of the ship, takes control of the survivors on the island and replicates the power structures and social hierarchies prevalent in capitalist society to further her desires. In movies where catharsis is hard to come by, the producers seem to be keen to persuade the audience that resistance is futile and that we should not bother attempting to resist the misgivings of the current society.

The Menu featuring Ralph Fiennes and Anya Taylor-Joy is another example of superficial satire. It puts the focus on a chef exacting revenge with a touch of class dynamics and a sprinkling of politics in the culinary world. We meet the rich at their dining table – each with their own shades of arrogance, ignorance, and egotism. While satire necessitates exaggeration, this concoction of personal flaws doled out to the uber-rich characters drives home the belief that they are undeserving of their wealth because of their shortcomings. The creators of such films shirk the responsibility of interrogating larger socio-economic structures that divide the haves from the have-nots.

Movies that satirise comically evil rich characters provide catharsis by getting the audience to point their fingers and laugh at the cost of their characters' misery. They give people an outlet to declare their opinions on the situation, overvaluing their beliefs instead of striving to present an alternate world that is more equal or an idea that could inspire praxis. They affirm the notion that as long as we believe in our hearts that capitalism is bad, we are free to continue to participate in capitalistic exchange.

One of Netflix's flagship shows, *Squid Game*, enraptured the audience in 2021 with a seemingly refreshing take on financial desperation that traps the working class. However, its critique too overlooked the structural economic issues plaguing society and focused on turning the competition into a spectacle.

Following its global success, the streaming giant greenlit *Squid Game: The Challenge*, a reality show that mimicked games from the original show sans the fatal consequences. The show cast 456 participants in the age range of 18 to 74 years competing for a whopping $4.56 million prize. The irony of turning social satire into a reality game show raised serious questions of artistic integrity. Reports of mishaps on set surfaced in the wake of its release, and contestants who allegedly suffered hypothermia and nerve damage have threatened legal action.

As Mark Fisher remarked in *Capital Realism*, in the current neo-liberal world order, subjugation no longer takes the form of a subordination to an extrinsic spectacle, but rather invites us to interact and participate. It seems that the cinema-going audience is itself the object of this satire.

Flip side of visual aesthetics

In their quest to satirise the rich, shows like *Succession* and *Severance* have banished the poor to the margins of the cinematic frame. In instances where the working class makes it to the frames, they are punished for overstaying their welcome. In the first season of *The White Lotus*, Kai, a native Hawaiian, is persuaded by a resort guest to steal from the hotel to ease his family's struggles under the pretext of "getting back at the colonisers". However, when he is caught in the act, he is sent to prison and is never heard from again.

Usually, the production of shows critiquing the uber-rich is set in elaborate mansions and sprawling holiday resorts under saturated colours and sanitised lights. Their costumes are procured from high-end fashion houses, and the carefully curated custom props are added to suit the sensibilities of their characters. While they succeed in manufacturing an ecosystem seeped in opulence and excess, that is removed from the daily lives of the masses, the magnitude of Hollywood's cultural capital inadvertently commands replication from the audience, mostly in the form of merchandise sold by the production houses at inflated prices.

These material production staples in the age of mechanical reproduction seem to take a life of their own, feeding into the hegemonic propaganda machine, rendering the satire toothless – as pointed out by Fisher, "film performs our anti-capitalism for us, allowing us to consume with impunity".

The consumption choices presented to us by the Hollywood elite under the garb of culture are shaped by the imperatives of market logic and are the result of prioritising profit over creativity and artistic integrity. Their cultural projects are designed to conceal the fact that operations of capital do not depend on any subjectively assumed belief.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Remembering the legendary Trojan War immortalised in Greek mythology

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

If X is to be believed, the Trojan War began in 1194 BC and ended a decade later in 1184 BC, at roughly this time of the year. X has a reputation for being the first person to calculate the earth's circumference. Name X.?

QUESTION 2

In the 18th century, researchers believed the Trojan War was a mythological tale, not a historical event. Their belief was called into question by the discoveries of an amateur archaeologist named Heinrich Schliemann in modern-day _____ in Turkey. Fill in the blank with the name of a city.

QUESTION 3

According to a mythological basis for the Trojan War, the god-king ____ had been unfaithful to his wife and had sired many children with other women — so much so that at some point, he conceived of the War as a means to depopulate the earth. Fill in the blank.?

QUESTION 4

Before the War, X pretended to be mad to avoid joining, only to be tricked into revealing his sanity when he refused to kill his son Telemachus. Similarly, Y disguised himself as a woman but was outed when he instinctively reached for a spear when someone blew a war horn. Name X and Y.

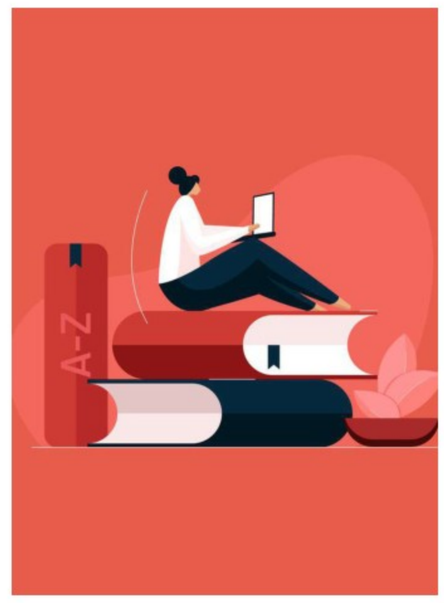
QUESTION 5

While Homer's epic *Iliad* popularised the Trojan War, Virgil's _____ popularised the Trojan horse, among other tales. Its central narrative arc follows a survivor of the War and his efforts to resettle refugees from Troy. Fill in the blank.

Visual question:

This is an ancient battering ram, an early example of a _____ _____. Some historians believe the Trojan horse was another example, but mistaken for a large horse. Fill in the blanks.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Sachin's only century in IPL was when playing against this team. **Ans: Kochi Tuskers Kerala**
2. Number of wickets in Sachin's IPL career. **Ans: none**
3. The uniqueness about Sachin holding on to four catches in match against Kolkata Knight Riders. **Ans: He became the first fielder to hold on to four catches in an innings, which he jointly held till 2021 when Mohammed Nabi broke it with five catches.**
4. Team against whom Sachine scored the most runs. **Ans: Chennai Super Kings (368 runs in 12 matches)**
5. Precedent he set for batsman's double in 2010. **Ans: Winning the Orange Cap and Player of the Series**
6. Two grounds outside India where Sachin scored 50 runs. **Ans: Newlands in Cape Town and St. George's Park in Gqeberha, both in South Africa in 2009**
7. Cricketer with whom Sachin had most century partnerships. **Ans: Ambati Rayudu (2)**
8. Number of Player of the Match awards. **Ans: 8**
9. Cricketer with whom he had the most number of opening partnerships. **Ans: Sanath Jayasuriya (20)**
Visual: Players with common achievement against Sachin. **Ans: Rajat Bhatia and R.P. Singh. Bowlers to have dismissed Sachin the most times (3)**
Early Birds: Dodo Jayaditya | Piyali Tuli | Sumana Dutta | Tito Shiladitya | Tamanjit Bisla



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"HAVE you made any plans for the summer vacation?"

"We might visit my uncle in Delhi. We called on him yesterday."

"You called on him! Is your uncle here on some business?"

"No, he's in Delhi!"

"In Delhi! In that case, you didn't 'call on' him, but you 'called him up'. When you 'call on' someone, you visit them. For example, Milind called on us last Tuesday."

"I called on Siddharth yesterday."

"But when you 'call up' somebody, you ring them up. You telephone them. I called up my office and told diem I would be tee."

"Last night my father called up my uncle and said we might come to Delhi in May."

"Your uncle is a businessman, right?"

"That's right. He has three factories. He is a real busybody."

"A busybody!"

"Yes. He is working all the time, has no time to relax..."

"...what you mean is, he is a busy person, not a 'busybody'. You see, a 'busybody' is someone who 'interferes in other people's affairs'. Does your uncle do this?"

"Oh no! He has no time to interfere in other people's business. He doesn't even know what's going on in his own family. He certainly isn't a busybody."

"Well, your uncle may not be a busybody, but mine certainly is."

"Is he the one who tells all those funny stories?"

"That's right. He specialises in embroidering everything."

"Embroiders everything? I..."

"...when you embroider something..."

"... I know what embroidery is! You sew a design onto a piece of cloth. My mother has embroidered many pillow cases."

"Pillow cases aren't the only things one can embroider. You can embroider many other things, including stories!"

"Stories!"

"That's right. When you embroider a story, you make the story more interesting "by adding details to it from your imagination". Many autobiographies are merely embroidered versions of what happened."

"My aunt embroiders her stories all the time."

"It's emBROiders. The stress is on the second syllable."

"O.K. Most film magazines emBROider their stories because that's what people want."

"You're right. Well, I'd better get going. I have lots of things to do."

"You do, don't you? You're such a busybody!"

"Ha! Ha!"

Published in The Hindu on April 16, 1996.

Word of the day

Phlegmatic:
showing little emotion

Usage: *She can be quite phlegmatic when it comes to business matters.*

Pronunciation:
newsth.live/phlegmaticpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /flɛgˈmætɪk/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

FRIDAY
April 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
34 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 98

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

BHARAT SUMMIT

DELIVERING GLOBAL JUSTICE

100+ NATIONS

WORLD'S BIGGEST
GATHERING OF PROGRESSIVES

April 25-26, 2025 | HICC, Hyderabad, Telangana

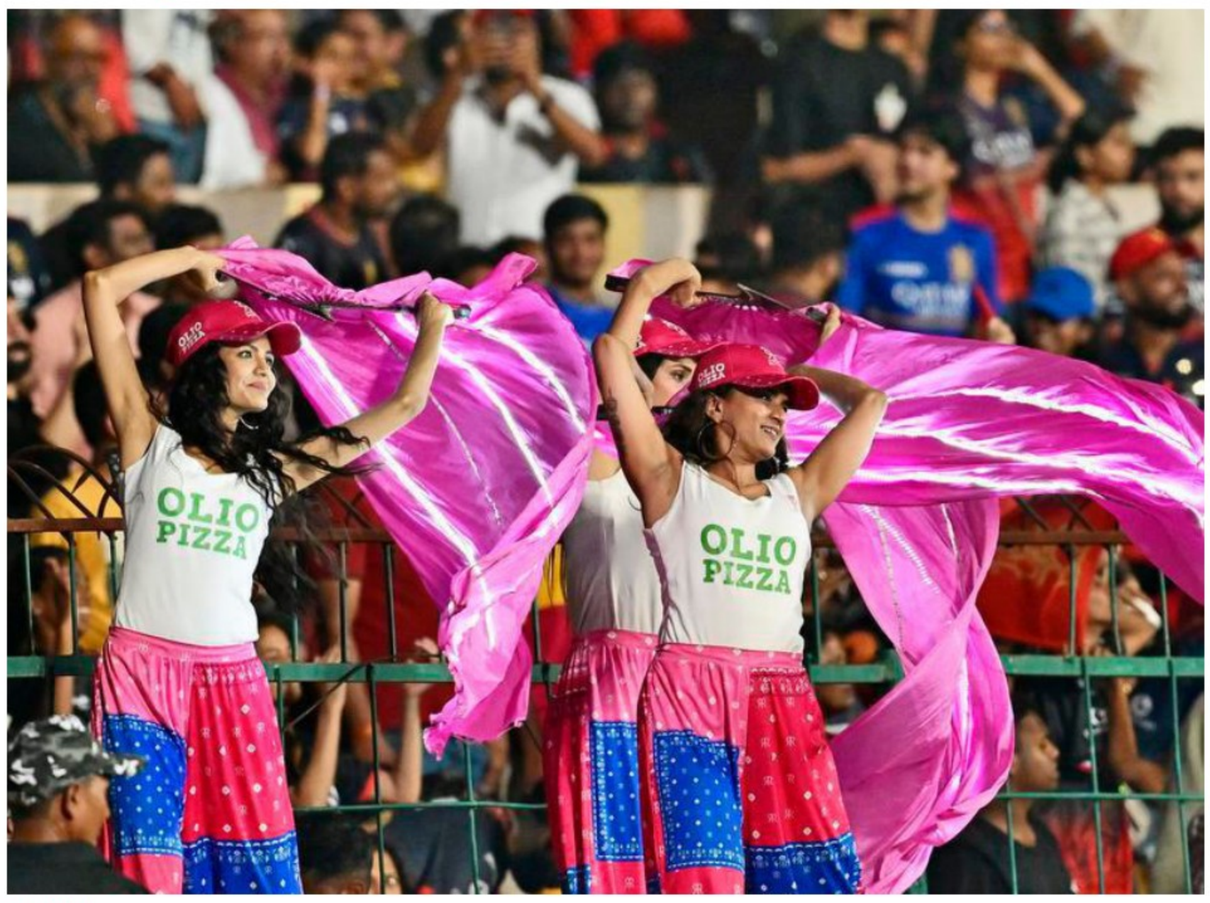
Come, Partner with Telangana
India's Fastest Growing State

AND MAKE IMPACTFUL CHANGE...

Published by Industries Department, Government of Telangana

J BG-BGE

Cheering the crowd



In action: Cheerleaders during the IPL match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Rajasthan Royals at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Thursday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Issue public notice for removal of unauthorised symbols from vehicles: HC

There is an unfortunate tendency amongst former MPs and MLAs of misusing emblems on their letterheads and vehicles, says Karnataka High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka directed the State government to issue public notice though print and visual media asking people to remove within four weeks all kinds of unauthorised flags, emblems, names, symbols, stickers, seals, and logos of any kind which are prohibited.

The court also directed the Central and the State governments to frame regulations for imposition of fine and for cancelling driving licences by providing necessary penal measures in the relevant rules for violating law on use of the national emblems and symbols both on public and private vehicles.

The court noted that there is an "unfortunate tendency" amongst the constitutional functionaries, like former MPs, MLAs, etc., even after they demit the office, of misusing the emblems, flags, names, etc., by affixing them on their letterheads and the numberplaces of the vehicles.

A file photo of a Union government emblem which was being used by a person posing as a police officer.

"This conduct is unfortunate. The misuse of symbols, seals, flags, emblem, and names have to be countered for their illegal and unauthorised display at various places in various manners," the court said, while directing the governments to sternly deal with such conduct.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice M.I. Arun issued the directions while disposing of a PIL petition filed by the High Court Legal Services Committee. The PIL was filed based on a direction of a single judge, who had noticed use of "Human Rights Commission" and other names, which gives an impression that they are vehicles of public authorities, illegally by private individuals and NGOs.

The Bench also directed the Home Secretaries of the Centre and the State governments and other authorities to take steps to effectively implement the provisions of the The Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 and the Rules, and the State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Act, 2005 and the Rules, which clearly spell out who can use national and State emblems, symbols, etc., besides imposing prohibition on their use.

All applicable provisions of Central and State Motor Vehicle Rules dealing with display of registration marks and prohibition on use of State emblem, etc. should be implemented effectively, the Bench said.

"The state of affairs prevails in the society which needs to be immediately remedied by the law enforcing agencies that the people at large are witnessed on public roads and public places and also the institutions who have been unauthorisedly using the emblem, government names, department names in contravention of the law," the Bench observed.

Meanwhile, the Bench directed the higher officers to chalk out the methods and programmes to sensitise the officials and authorities to ensure that the misuse of national emblem and symbols in various forms do not occur, stopped and prevented.

The traffic police, the Bench said, should be educated by undertaking programmes and imparting training to keep observance and proper vigil to take penal action whenever they come across the violation of the kind and nature.

The authorities should be instructed to register the cases wherever the complaints with regard to the misuse of the emblems and symbols are found correct, by issuing the necessary circulars, the Bench said.

Namma SAFARI offers data-driven insights for State's climate goals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Namma SAFARI, a first-of-its-kind integrated system dynamics model enabling policymakers, researchers, and planners to explore low-carbon development pathways, was launched at an event at the Bangalore International Centre on Thursday.

Developed by the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), a research-based think- tank, Namma SAFARI intends to simulate growth across key sectors such as power, industry, transport, buildings, agriculture, and land use, while tracking resource use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The Namma SAFARI dashboard offers policymakers and other stakeholders an intuitive, interactive platform to simulate scenarios, tweak variables, and design actionable roadmaps for a greener Karnataka.

It is claimed to be Karnataka's first comprehensive long-term planning tool tailored to the State's unique development needs and climate goals.

Participating in the launch event, Rajeev Gowda, former MP, spoke about the need for modelling studies that inform policies by looking at long-term future scenarios.

As part of a panel discussion at the event, N. Amaranath, CEO, Karnataka Solar Power Development Corporation Limited (KSPDCL), pointed out that globally, the expansion of large-scale solar capacity faces significant land-use challenges, particularly in balancing food security, forestry, and urbanisation goals. This makes the prospect of meeting all energy needs through electrification alone seem highly unrealistic for a country like India. Insights from the model showed that while Karnataka's electricity demand is projected to soar, driven by massive electrification across sectors, a green shift is possible. If no new coal plants are built and renewables are ramped up, GHG emissions could fall from 400 MT to just 50 MT by 2050.

Green construction materials, rooftop solar, and passive cooling strategies could cut building-related electricity demand by 25%, while making houses more comfortable and energy-efficient. Shifting from coal-heavy production to electric- and hydrogen-based alternatives could decarbonise two of Karnataka's most emission-intensive industries. A freight modal shift from road to rail and widespread electric vehicle adoption can slash diesel use and transport emissions.

Insights from the model also underline the importance of solar pumps, micro-irrigation, and millet cultivation in reducing agriculture's massive electricity footprint, and highlight that renewables paired with battery and hydro storage will be the backbone of Karnataka's green energy transition. Policies around time-of-day tariffs and storage incentives are critical.

Celebrate an unforgettable holiday with Thomas Cook!
Disneyland Paris
Disney TALES OF MAGIC
NEW SPECTACULAR NIGHTTIME SHOW
©Disney
Holiday without Flights
6 Days | Passionate Paris With Disney
@ ₹ 140 000.00 pp
Group Holiday with Flights
11 Days | Fusion Europe South Special
@ ₹ 2 99 900.00 pp
Visit: France | Switzerland | Italy & Germany
Inclusions: Airfare, Hotels, Meals, Visa Fees
(For Group Holiday), Insurance & Sightseeing as per itinerary.
T&C Apply
Call your nearest store
M. G. Road: 8291227617
Basaveshwar Nagar: 9619479651
Electronic City : 9167594406
HSR Layout: 9167492765
Indiranagar: 8291471737
Jayanagar: 9167491079
Kammanahalli: 9167494931
Malleshwaram: 9619475496
82912 83667
Thomas Cook

Daily wager sentenced to life

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Tumakuru district fast-track special court on Thursday convicted a daily wage labourer, Basavaraju, 40, for sodomising a nine-year-old boy on the pretext of buying him snacks in Tumakuru in 2022.

According to the chargesheet, the boy, a native of Hubballi, had been admitted to a hostel along with his elder brother, aged 11. The victim began to miss home and wanted to talk to his parents. He ventured out and met the accused outside the hostel, and asked him help to talk to his parents. The accused called his parents and made the boy talk for a few minutes. The accused took the boy to an isolated place on the pretext of buying him snacks and sodomised him before dropping him back.

Basavaraju was booked under Section 377 (unnatural sexual offence) of the IPC and under various sections of the POCSO Act.

City doctor booked on suspicion of killing dog

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Adugodi police have registered an FIR against a doctor for allegedly killing a stray dog by throwing it from the third floor of his apartment on Tuesday.

Based on a complaint filed by Ayush Bhattacharjee, a student, the police booked Sagar Ballal.

The doctor, according to the complainant, is a resident of Brindavan apartment at Lakkasandra. He was not happy with the stray dog, named Scooby, staying on the terrace of the apartment and being taken care of by other residents. He had allegedly attempted to kill the dog on February 5 by throwing it down from the third floor.

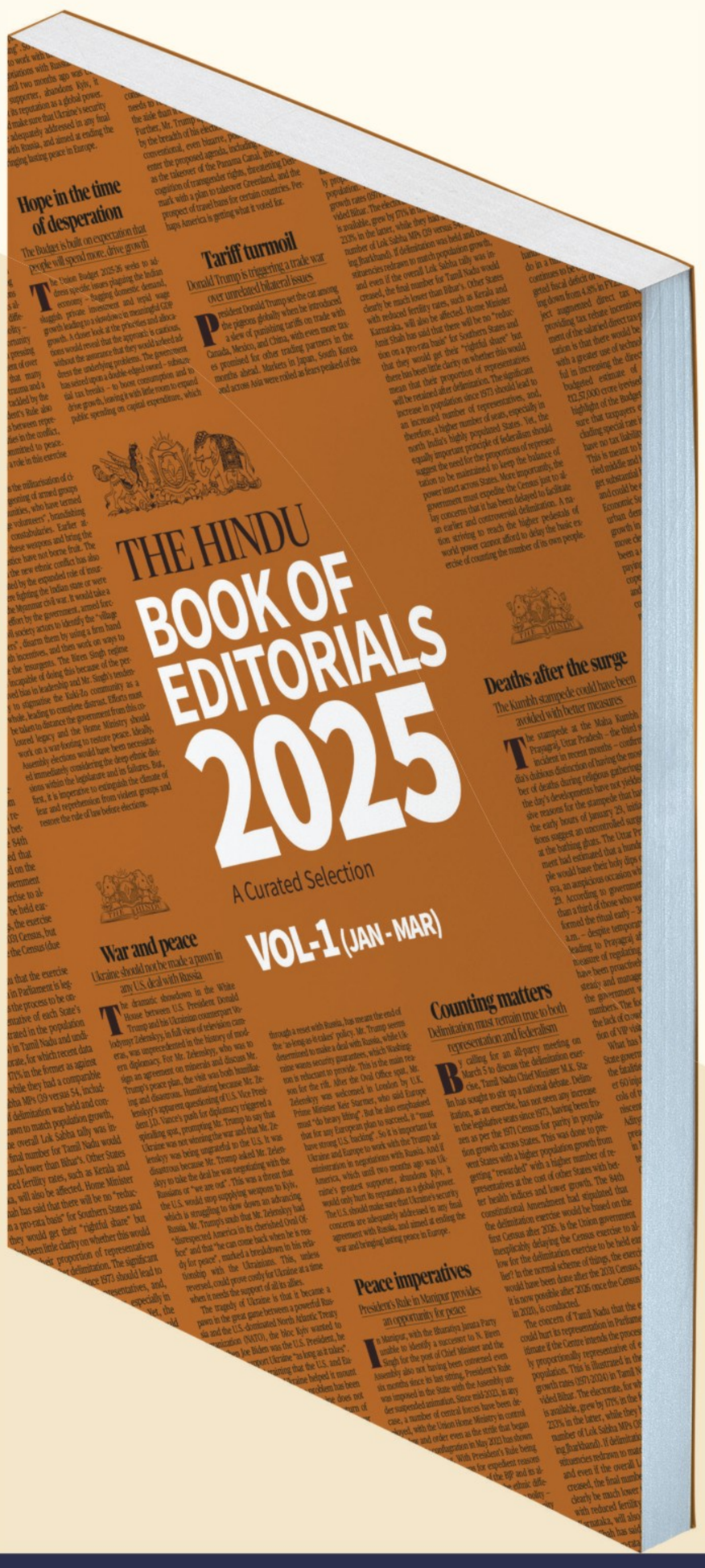
The complainant noticed the dog bleeding and writhing in pain and took it to a hospital. The dog was under treatment for two months. After recovery, it was brought back to the apartment. On April 20, the residents heard a loud sound. On checking, they suspected that the dog had fallen on a car parked on the roadside. The owner of the car filed a complaint against Dr. Ballal for damaging the car.

THE HINDU GROUP

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

THE HINDU BOOK OF EDITORIALS 2025

VOL-1 (JAN - MAR)



LAUNCHING SHORTLY

The Hindu Book of Editorials captures recent happenings in a set format, with the editorials being grouped under different sectors and viewpoints. The curated material is presented in calendrical progression, to provide a contextual review of the months that passed by.

This book, the first volume for 2025, presents editorials published from January to March 2025.

₹149

LAUNCH OFFER 20% OFF

*Shipping charges extra | conditions apply

PRE-BOOK YOUR COPY ONLINE

Visit: **publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/**
For bulk booking, e-mail: **bookstore@thehindu.co.in**
For any enquiries call: **1800 102 1878**

Kin bid farewell to Bharath Bhushan and Manjunath Rao

The mortal remains of the victims of the Pahalgam terrorist attack arrived at Kempegowda International Airport in the wee hours, accompanied by family members

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/SHIVAMOGGA

Family and friends on Thursday bid a tearful farewell to Bharath Bhushan, 41, and Manjunath Rao, 47, who were killed in the terror attack on Tuesday in Pahalgam. The final rites of Bharath Bhushan were conducted at the Hebbal crematorium in Bengaluru, while that of Manjunath Rao were in Shivamogga.

At the house of Bharath Bhushan, his spouse, Sujatha Bhushan, who witnessed the killing, was inconsolable. The sight of her carrying their three-year-old son in front of the body evoked tearful reactions. Bharath Bhushan had celebrated his birthday just 10 days earlier, before leaving for Jammu and Kashmir on a family trip.

G. Sitaram, father-in-law of Bharath Bhushan, said: "He was an intelligent man with an ambition to contribute to the nation's progress. The family is yet to come to terms with his untimely demise."

Many people, including political leaders, gathered at the crematorium to pay their last respects. The funeral was overseen by Transport and Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy, following instructions from Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Mr. Reddy also visited Bharath Bhushan's residence in Sundar Nagar, Mathikere. The funeral was attended by BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra and Munirathna, Rajarajeshwari Nagar MLA, among others.

In the morning, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot and Mr. Siddaramaiah paid their last respects as Bharath Bhushan's mortal remains were kept at his residence.

In the wee hours, the bodies of Bharath Bhushan and Manjunath Rao arrived at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). Family members travelled from Delhi, accompanied by Tejasvi Surya, Bengaluru South MP. The mortal remains were first transported from Jammu and Kashmir to Delhi, before reaching Bengaluru.

The Karnataka government has announced an ex-gratia payment of ₹10 lakh to each of the bereaved families.

At Shivamogga, the mortal remains of Manjunath Rao were consigned to flames, after the final rites were conducted with police honours in the presence of family members, elected representatives, and senior officers of the Shivamogga district administration. Hundreds of people paid their respects to the deceased and took part a procession taken out with his body to the crematorium. Manjunath Rao's mother, Sumathi, was inconsolable as she saw the body.

Earlier, activists of several Hindutva groups took out a bike rally along with the ambulance carrying Manjunath Rao's body from Bengaluru to Shivamogga. His wife Pallavi and son Abhijaya travelled from Bengaluru in a separate vehicle.

The Shivamogga district administration had made security arrangements at Manjunath Rao's residence at Vijayanagar. Barricades were in place to handle the crowd visiting the house to pay homage.

Union Minister for Consumer Affairs Pralhad Joshi was among the elected representatives who paid homage and addressed the gathering at the residence. Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa also visited the residence. MP for Shivamogga B.Y. Raghavendra, S.N. Channabasappa, MLA, and others accompanied the procession.

Traders and businessmen of the city observed a bandh during the procession. Manjunath Rao's son Abhijaya performed the last rites.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with the family members of Bharath Bhushan in Bengaluru on Thursday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Tejasvi Surya, MP, along with Minister for State for Railways V. Somanna paying respects to the mortal remains of Bharath Bhushan and Manjunath Rao at KIA on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The mortal remains of Manjunath Rao being taken in a procession to the crematorium in Shivamogga on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Union Minister for Consumer Affairs Pralhad Joshi paying homage to Manjunath Rao in Shivamogga. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Govt. brings back 175 stranded tourists

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Thursday safely evacuated 175 tourists who had been stranded in Jammu and Kashmir. The special flight carrying the evacuees touched down at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru around noon.

The rescue operation was spearheaded by Labour Minister Santosh Lad, who was personally dispatched to Jammu and Kashmir following instructions from Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Lad arrived in Jammu and Kashmir in the early hours of Wednesday and immediately began coordinating the search and evacuation efforts. As part of the operation, he visited nearly 11 accommodation facilities across the region to locate and assist tourists from Karnataka who had been trapped in the valley. His efforts began with identifying the mortal remains of two victims.

Special arrangements were made by the government to ensure the transportation of their bodies, which were flown back to Bengaluru on the same flight, accompanied by their family members.

Describing the situation on the ground, Mr. Lad recounted the trauma of what he witnessed in Kashmir. "The scenes were heart-wrenching. I could not sleep even for a single minute in the last two days," he told *The Hindu*.

Once the Karnataka tourists were identified and gathered, arrangements were made for a special chartered flight for those who were unable to secure return tickets independently. A total of 175 tourists were airlifted on this flight.

Mr. Lad confirmed that an additional 20 to 22 tourists remain in Kashmir and are expected to return shortly via commercial flights. Mr. Lad promised that the government will continue to provide support and assistance to ensure the safe return of all remaining citizens.

Loss of Bharath Bhushan dims lustre of 'Seven Colours'

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The vibrant bond among a group of seven friends known as the 'Seven Colours' dimmed on April 22, following a terror attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. Bharath Bhushan, 41, lost his life when terrorists unleashed a hail of bullets on unsuspecting tourists. The attack has left his friends, family, and community in shock.

Bharath Bhushan was a key member of the 'Seven Colours', a tight-knit circle of friends who maintained a strong bond despite being spread across the globe. Four of the members, including Bharath Bhushan, are based in Bengaluru, while the other three live abroad. WhatsApp is their primary mode of communication to plan meet-ups, share memories, and support each other.

Srujan, a founding member of the group, told *The Hindu*, "Bharath was the heart of the group – charming, lively, and among the brightest of us." The bond between them was forged over 15 years ago during their early professional days on the Infosys campus. Though life had taken them to different cities and countries, the camaraderie remained unbroken. Just 10 days ago, on April 14, Bharath Bhushan celebrated his birthday.

Mr. Srujan recalled that Bharath Bhushan was in a transitional phase of his life. While still employed in the private sector, he had been preparing to take a leap into entrepreneurship alongside his wife, Sujatha Bhushan, a medical practitioner. Ms. Sujatha had recently opened a polyclinic, and Bharath Bhushan was planning to support and expand their joint venture.

A few years into Infosys, Bharath Bhushan had taken a break from his corporate career to pursue an MBA in Mysuru. Passionate about social equity, in 2014 he launched a start-up modelled on the lines of online job portals.

Umesh, another member of 'Seven Colours', shared fond memories of Bharath Bhushan's adventurous spirit. "He was an excellent swimmer and had personally taught many of us. He lived life fully and gave generously," he said. Just a year ago, Bhushan had joyfully celebrated his son's second birthday.

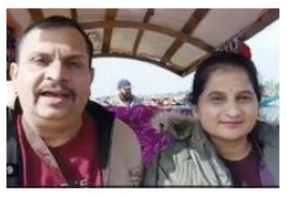
Meanwhile, the Sundar Nagar Residents' Welfare Association will be writing to the competent authority requesting the renaming of Sundar Nagar park after Bharath Bhushan. Currently, the BBMP park near his residence is named as Sundar Nagar park. The residents have already put up a banner changing the name.

'We had faith in the govt. and went to J&K believing that the heaven on earth is safe'

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

"All along the route, there was so much security. But at the valley where we were, there was no security personnel. We had faith in the government. We went there believing that the place was safe and wanted to see Kashmir, often called heaven on earth... We three went, but now we are returning with one body in a box," said a grief-stricken Pallavi R., wife of Manjunath Rao, who was killed in the terror attack at Pahalgam in Baisaran Valley in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday.

On Thursday, speaking to presspersons on her way back to Shivamogga with her son Abhijaya and the mortal remains of her husband, Ms. Pallavi said: "He died in no time after he was shot. I could not talk to him. I was just a few feet away when he fell down. He was shot in the neck. I rushed to him and held him in my hands. Within a few seconds, his and my clothes were soaked in blood. I have kept the clothes safe and will not wash them," said Ms. Pallavi.



Last video of Manjunath Rao with his wife Pallavi in Jammu and Kashmir.

The terrorists with weapons, according to Ms. Pallavi, fired at her husband from a distance. "There was a forest-like area a few metres away from the place where we were. My husband was purchasing snacks for my son. I saw two people with weapons and did talk to one of them," she narrated.

She and her son, outraged over Manjunath Rao's death, told the terrorists to kill them too. "They refused, but told us to convey this to Narendra Modi," she recalled.

The terrorists, according to Ms. Pallavi, targeted men among the tourists. "There was a young couple. They shot the newly-married person at close range. I saw at least 25 dead bodies. Only women and children were spared. We were all screaming for help. There was no phone network in that area," she said.

Two local Muslim men, who were terrified by the incident and were repeatedly saying 'Bismillah', helped them come down from the valley. "It was a tough terrain. We walked for about one hour to reach the hospital. One of them carried my son on his back, and another helped me cross the stretch by holding my hand. I am thankful to them," Ms. Pallavi said.

For Abhijaya, 18, the 'dream trip' to Kashmir has left him shattered. He told the media that the first three days of the trip to Kashmir were wonderful. The family visited a tulip garden and Mughal Gardens on the first day. On the second day, they took a ride in a *shikara* (boathouse), and visited Sonmarg and Doodhpathri. They spent the next two days in Pahalgam. "It was my father's dream to visit Kashmir. We enjoyed a lot on the first three days. The fourth day was tragic. With his death, the place has become a hell for me," said Abhijaya.

The family had left for the trip soon after his II PU results were out. He had scored 97% in the commerce stream. When his father was shot dead, Abhijaya said he was infuriated.

The boy said he would never forgive the people who killed his father, and wants them to go through a similar pain.

After condemning attack, many Cong. Ministers blame Centre

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Even as the Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday unequivocally condemned the cowardly act of terror in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his Cabinet colleagues have lashed out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the terror activity.

While AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge and KPCC chief and Deputy Chief Minister D.K Shivakumar refrained from blaming the Centre, several Ministers in the State government hit out at Mr. Modi and Mr. Shah for the terror attack and the killing of 27 people.

Mr. Siddaramaiah held the Centre responsible for the terror attack and said it was on account of intelligence failure. "It's a planned attack, and this is the failure of the Central government's intelligence gathering process," he said. He even recalled the terror attack which occurred in 2019 and surgical strike against Pakistan.

Along with condemning the terror attack, Ministers Priyank Kharge, Eshwar Khandre, and Dinesh Gundu Rao blamed the Centre for its failure to ensure security to innocent tourists. They did not, however, criticise the Jammu and Kashmir government led by Omar Abdullah.

Mr. Priyank Kharge accused the Centre of ignoring critical security warnings in both the Pulwama and Pahalgam attacks. He claimed that the BJP-led Centre had cut over 1.8 lakh Army personnel posts since the pandemic. He took a jibe at Mr. Shah and said: "When the so-called Chanakya Home Minister is busy toppling governments, breaking parties, and rigging elections, this is what happens. Where is the intelligence?"

He asked in a post on X if "RSS aggression" is limited "only to Vijayadashami Utsav speeches and aggression on minorities and Dalits."

Mr. Priyank Kharge and Mr. Khandre demanded Mr. Shah's resignation.

Mr. Dinesh Gundu Rao alleged that "the Modi government developed a false narrative that terrorism has declined after scrapping the Article 370 of the Constitution."

Meanwhile, Chief Whip of the Opposition in the Legislative Council N. Ravi Kumar on Thursday alleged that the Congress leaders have exposed themselves of "double-talk and double-standards".

In a statement, Mr. Ravi Kumar said on one hand "Mr. Kharge says his party will extend support to the Centre on the issue of terror attack. On the other hand, the State Ministers blame the Centre for the Pahalgam tragedy."

FIR against BJP IT cell for defamatory post on Rahul Gandhi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Grounds police registered an FIR against the BJP IT and social media cell in Karnataka for allegedly posting defamatory content against Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, on Wednesday.

Based on the complaint, the police charged members of the IT cell under Sections 196 (promotion of enmity between different groups on grounds like religion, race, place of birth, residence, language) and 353 (2)(public mischief through misinformation) of BNS.

Linking foreign trip

C.M. Dhananjaya, spokesperson and chairman of KPCC legal and human resources department, said that the BJP IT cell post on social media suggesting that Rahul Gandhi's foreign trip is linked to the terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir.

"This is not only intended to tarnish the image of Rahul Gandhi, but also to divert the attention and escape from their responsibility. This will also create a rift in society, which needs to be dealt with firmly," he added.

The police said that they will issue a notice to the persons concerned to appear for questioning.

Cabinet approves projects worth ₹3,647 crore in meet at M.M. Hills

CM rebuts claims of funds being diverted to guarantees; seeks to know how projects can be approved sans securing funds

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The State Cabinet, which on Thursday held a special meeting at Male Mahadeshwara Hills (M.M. Hills), a major pilgrimage town in Chamarajanagar district, approved development projects worth ₹3,647.62 crore, with a focus on works in the Mysuru Revenue division, primarily Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who presided over the meeting, said the Cabinet approved 78 subjects, which is significant for accelerating development in the division. "The Cabinet approved works worth ₹3,647.62 crore. Opposition claims that funds are being diverted to the guarantee schemes are baseless. Do you think we would approve projects without securing funds?" the Chief Minister asked, countering the allegations.

Key decisions: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah presiding over the Cabinet meeting at M.M. Hills in Chamarajanagar district on Thursday. Tourism Minister H.K. Patil, Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar are seen. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Irrigation projects

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the approvals granted for major and minor irrigation works alone amount to ₹1,787 crore. Four subjects pertaining to the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes, costing ₹203 crore, were approved, he added.

A sum of ₹210 crore had been approved for addressing the human-animal conflict in Chamarajanagar district. Rail barricades would be installed along the forest borders to address the conflict with elephants, said the Chief Minister.

For addressing the long-standing drinking water issues in the division, a sum of ₹315 crore had been approved, the Chief Minister said, while announcing to upgrade the taluk hospital at Kollegal into a 250-bed district hospital at a cost of ₹85 crore, with Chamarajanagar already having the hospital attached to the Government Medical College. The project of electrifying the tribal *haadi*s (hamlets) of Chamarajanagar district would be completed at a cost of ₹56 crore, he said.

One of the key demands for promoting tourism in the division has been sanctioned, with the Cabinet approving projects worth ₹300 crore. Mr. Siddaramaiah said the Cabinet agreed to establish the "Manteswamy, Rachappaji and Siddappaji Development Authority" at Chikkalur in Chamarajanagar district.

A new cricket stadium would come up on the outskirts of Mysuru at Yelwal, and the land for it would be acquired and transferred to the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA), the Chief Minister announced.

Badanaval village

The Cabinet also resolved to develop Badanaval village in Chamarajanagar district, where Mahatma Gandhi had visited, at a cost of ₹40 crore. A sum of ₹20 crore would be released this year and the remaining next year, the Chief Minister said, recollecting the visit of Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge and other Congress leaders to Badavanal, which has a century-old khadi spinning centre, during the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

Considering the demand for the expansion of the runway of Mysuru airport, the Cabinet approved ₹101 crore for land acquisition. As announced in the Budget, the Cabinet gave its nod for establishing a museum at the old DC's office in Mysuru at a cost of ₹30 crore.

The Cabinet passed a resolution condemning the Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir and expressed condolences over the deaths. It also expressed condolences on the demise of Pope Francis.

Cabinet to meet at Nandi Hills, Vijayapura

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday said the State Cabinet would meet next at Nandi Hills in the Bengaluru division and Vijayapura in Belagavi division in the coming days.

Speaking to reporters after the Cabinet meeting held at M.M. Hills in Chamarajanagar district, Mr. Siddaramaiah, who was keen on holding the special meeting at M.M. Hills, said, "The Cabinet had decided to meet in the four Revenue divisions. Accordingly, it has already met in Kalaburagi in the Kalaburagi division and now at M.M. Hills in the Mysuru division. The next special meetings will happen in Belagavi and Bengaluru divisions."

In the meeting on Thursday, the Cabinet resolved to hold its special meeting at Nandi Hills and Vijayapura. The Chief Minister said the Cabinet also resolved to develop the place where Krishnadevaraya, the legendary emperor of the Vijayanagar empire, was buried, at Anegundi.

Jobs promised for kin of oxygen shortage victims

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday said that the State government would address the long-pending demand for employment to the next of kin of those who died due to oxygen shortage at the Chamarajanagar District Hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic. A resolution is expected to be taken up in the upcoming Cabinet meeting.

In May 2021, 24 COVID-19 patients lost their lives due to a severe shortage of medical oxygen in Chamarajanagar. Following the tragedy, jobs were promised to the victims' families which remains largely unfulfilled.

Addressing mediapersons after a special State Cabinet meeting held at Male Mahadeshwara Hills, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah acknowledged the delay, stating that "some legal issues have come in the way" of fulfilling the promise. He promised that these hurdles would be resolved and a permanent solution finalised at the next Cabinet meeting.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said that while some family members have been offered jobs on an outsourcing basis, not all have been accommodated. He said there would be discussions with the Medical Education Minister too. He suggested that jobs could potentially be created at the Chamarajanagar Government Medical College.

In May 2021, 24 COVID-19 patients lost their lives due to a severe shortage of medical oxygen in Chamarajanagar. FILE PHOTO

Survey work on internal reservation to start on May 5

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

A long-awaited survey that could end differences over the size of the population of Dalit 'left' and Dalit 'right' communities in the State and is likely to pave the way for internal reservation among the Scheduled Castes is set to begin on May 5. Apart from the house-to-house survey, the government will also allow voluntary disclosure of the information online, for which Aadhaar is compulsory.

Supreme Court order

The survey is being conducted to understand the population size of the two groups before the government decides on the internal reservation matrix for 101 Scheduled Castes in the State. While the Dalit 'left' groups have been demanding internal reservation, accusing the Dalit 'right' factions of cornering reservation benefits, it has been necessitated after the Supreme Court last August allowed States to carve out internal reservation based on empirical data on backwardness among the Scheduled Castes.

Sources aware of the development told *The Hindu* that the data to be collected during the comprehensive survey is primarily to map Scheduled Castes and sub-castes, including their population, size of the family, literacy and education level, profession, place of habitation, general information such as facilities, information about the economic condition, government or private employment, land holding, house ownership, income, human development, benefits received from the government and political representation, among others.

A file photo of retired judge H.N. Nagamohan Das submitting a report on internal reservation to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Door-to-door survey

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While the house-to-house survey by teachers, assisted by anganwadi workers, to identify the Scheduled Caste families and their caste will go on till May 17, those whose homes have been missed in the enumeration process due to their absence can register themselves at booth-level special camps that will be held between May 19 and 21.

The government will also provide the option for voluntary declaration online between May 19 and 23, for which Aadhaar is mandatory.

A mobile app has been developed to collect data by the enumerators.

"Typically, an enumerator is expected to spend about five minutes in each household to collect data. Each enumerator is being given 100 households to collect the information crucial for analysis. The survey will also look into inadequacies in representation in education and public employment."

The house-to-house survey is part of the work of the Commission on Internal Reservation among the Scheduled Castes, headed by retired judge H.N. Nagamohan Das, who has been tasked by the State government to recommend slicing up the 17 % reservation among the SC communities. The commission has also been asked to bring the sub-castes under larger homogenous groups. Currently, the disagreement over the SC population is the use of nomenclature – Adi Karnataka, Adi Dravida, and Adi Andhra – the larger groups coined in the early 20th century during the rule of the erstwhile maharajas of Mysuru and Madras Presidency. Incidentally, the internal reservation carved out in 2022 during the BJP government ran into trouble, with many communities opposing it.

Population size

Government sources said, "The survey will put an end to the decades-long speculation over the population size of the castes associated with both groups. Reservation can be provided based on empirical data. Several rounds of discussion have taken place in the commission to make the survey robust."

CM rebuts ex-royal family's claim on land in Chamarajanagar

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Responding to a question on concerns among villagers over a land ownership claim by the erstwhile Mysore royal family, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday said none can question individuals in legal possession of the land.

Addressing reporters after a special State Cabinet meeting at M.M. Hills, the Chief Minister said, "The ownership of land in possession cannot be questioned as per the law." He said such individuals would apply for a khata as they have been cultivating the land for many years.

On the land claim issue, Mr. Siddaramaiah said, "Uluvavane odeya" – a Kannada saying meaning "the one who tills the land is its rightful owner".

Background of the case

Pramoda Devi Wadiyar of the erstwhile royal family has approached the Chamarajanagar Deputy Commissioner and other senior officials staking claim over more than 4,500 acres of land. The claim refers to properties as per the 1951 agreement between the then Maharaja of Mysore and the Government of India. Ms. Wadiyar has requested the district administration to issue a khata in the royal family's name for the land. However, in an attempt to assuage public fear, Ms. Wadiyar said that "the villagers need not worry over the claim of the land" and promised that "no trouble will be caused to the villagers even if the ownership of the land is transferred in the name of the erstwhile royal family".

Farmers' organisations have urged the government to reject the erstwhile royal family's claim and transfer cultivation and ownership rights to the farmers who are in current possession of land.

Begane Ramaiah dead

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

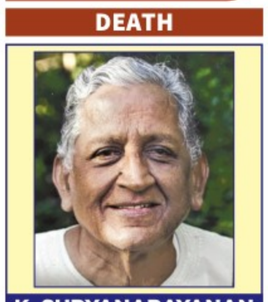
Former Minister Begane Ramaiah, who had represented Sringeri in the Assembly, died at a private hospital in Bengaluru on Thursday. He had been suffering from age-related health issues for the past 15 days. He was 89.

Mr. Ramaiah was elected to the Assembly from Sringeri in 1978.

The final rites will be conducted at the family-owned Seetha Farm at Hosahalli near Mandagadde on Friday at 3 p.m.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH



K. SURYANARAYANAN
(SURYA, SURY) 91 yrs

son of K. Krishnaswamy and Saradambal, beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother, mentor and friend, passed away on April 21st, 2025 in Bengaluru.

Deeply mourned by

Vasantha Surya, Arjun, Sumati, Shyamala, Sachin, Gautam, Sanjna, Mythili, Yasmin, Sukanya, Jagdish.

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
Superintending Engineer (Ele), Corporate Office, Navanagar, P.B. Road, Hubballi - 580025. Phone: 9449057833, Fax: 0836-2324307
e-Mail: seepmc.hescom@gmail.com Website: www.hescom.co.in
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) : U31401KA2002SGC030437

No:HESCOM/SEE(PMC)/EE-P2/AEE-2/2025-26/CYS-809 Dated: 24-04-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Karnataka Public Procurement Portal - KPPP Only)

Superintending Engineer (Ele), Projects Monitoring Cell, Corporate Office, HESCOM, Hubballi invites Tenders for (Project-41 to 130) "Selection of Solar Power Generators (SPGs) on the basis of Build Own & Operate (BOO) for Design, Survey, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of grid connected distributed Solar Power Plants for solarization of selected Agri feeders at Sub-Station (SS) level in HESCOM jurisdiction totally covering approximate 85,313 IP sets, its associated 11kV line to connect the plant with concerned SS and Remote Monitoring System (RMS) of solar power plants through RESCO mode, for 25 years under Component C-Feeder Level Solarization of PM-KUSUM Scheme" vide Indent No: **HESCOM/2025-26/SE0380**
The detailed notification regarding the bid enquiry can be obtained by logging in to the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 25-04-2025.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Projects Monitoring Cell, HESCOM, Hubballi.

DIPR/Dharwad/79/Adverto/2025-26

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MANDYA-571401
ದೂ.ಸಂ.:- 08232-226749 ಟಾಲ್ ಫ್ರೀ ನಂ :-1800-4253795
ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್:08232-221617
Website: www.mandvacity.mrc.gov.in
Email: itstaff_ulb_mandya@yahoo.co.in
NO.CMC/Mandya/AEE(Envi)/CR/01/2024-25
Date:22.04.2025

Retender Notification
(Through The Government of Karnataka Public Procurement Portal)

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 project fund and other government grants, Retender has been invited for below works at Kalenahalli Municipal Solid Waste Disposal site, through the Public Procurement Portal of the Government of Karnataka under the Document KW-4 as per the Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Directions 1999-2000 Act 2000. Eligible tenderers can participate in the tender through the e-portal http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.
(1) Construction of 35 TPD Material Recovery Facility of PEB Structure. (2) Indent no DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 21730/CALL-3. (3) Amount Put to Tender :- Rs 284.00 Lakh, (4) E.M.D:- Rs 4.26 Lakh. Last Date and Time for submission of Tender:07.05.2025 Up to 05.30 PM. Further details can be obtained from the website www.kppp.karntaka.gov.in and from this office during office timings. Any amendments/addendums will be published on the portal only

Sd/-President CMC Mandya | **Sd/-Municipal Commissioner CMC Mandya.**

ವಾಸಾಸಂಜ/ಸಸಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/043/2024–25

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA
No.EE:PWD:CTA:JE-2:AE-3:Tender-04:2025-26
Dated:- 24.04.2025

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from registered Contractors in KPWD for the following work through KPPP Portal as per standard tender documents rules.
Name of work:- Two cover System:- Reserved fo SC Caterory:- Head of Account 5054-04-337-0-01-154 MDR Improvements:- (1) Improvements to Holalkere-Hulemalali roadfrom Km 3.00 to 4.00 (Near Malkapura Village) in Holalkere Taluk.(W.I. 19356) (Reserved fo SC Caterory) /2nd Call
Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:- 100.00
Reserved fo ST Caterory :- Head of Account 5054-03-337-0-17-154 SH Renewals:- (2) Improvemnet of NH-150(A) Cross to Malleharavu Via SH-131 Cross to Obalapura, Nallareddy Kondapura and Pakurthi Road km.3.00 to 6.10in Molakalmuru taluk (Working Chainage km 3.0 to 4.60, km 5.0 to 6.10 and 7.10 to 8.50) (W.I. 18954) -(Reserved for ST Category)/CALL-2
Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:- 100.00
Tenders dates are as mentioned below: Late Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 02-05-2025 Time: 17.30
Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 03-05-2025 Time: 16.00
Date & time for opening of Technical Bid 05-05-2025 Time: 16.15
Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 07-05-2025 Time: 11.00
Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/26/2025-26 | **Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD, Chitradurga.**

BEFORE THE PRINCIPAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE BANGALORE CITY,
COURT HALL No. 1
O.S. No. 4445/2022

PLAINTIFFS: Malathi Laxman, And Another V/S **DEFENDANTS:** Commissioner For Religious And Charitable Endowments and Others

DEFENDANT NO.3:
SMT. L.BHUVANESHWARI, Aged about 52years Daughter of Late V. Lakshminarayana Babu, Residing at 5/1, 1st Cross, S.G Narayan Layout, Lalbagh Main Road, Bangalore – 560 027.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT NO.3
WHEREAS the above named Plaintiffs have made application to the Court under the provisions of under Section 92 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1908 inter alia seeking reliefs with regard to the Sri Balasubramanyaswamy Temple Trust situated at the suit Schedule Property.
You are hereby warned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the 16th day of june 2025 at 11:00 am in the forenoon to show cause against the application failing which the said application will be heard and determined against you Ex-Parte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Old No. 49, New No. 5/1, Lalbagh Main Road, S.G. Narayan Layout, Bangalore- 560027 and bounded as follows:-
ON THE EAST BY: No.291/1, 1st Cross Lal Bagh Main Road,
ON THE WEST BY: No.48, 1st Cross Lal Bagh Main Road,
ON THE NORTH BY: No.5 Corporation Road & Lal Bagh Main Road,
ON THE SOUTH BY: 1st Cross Lal Bagh Main Road
Measuring 30 by 54 feet
Given under my hand and seal of the Court this the 11th day of April 2025

By Order of the Court
Sd/-Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Court Bengaluru

Messrs Rego & Rego, Advocates
N-509, Manipal Centre,#47/73, Dickenson Road,Bangalore-560 042.
ADVOCATES FOR PLAINTIFF

PUBLIC NOTICE

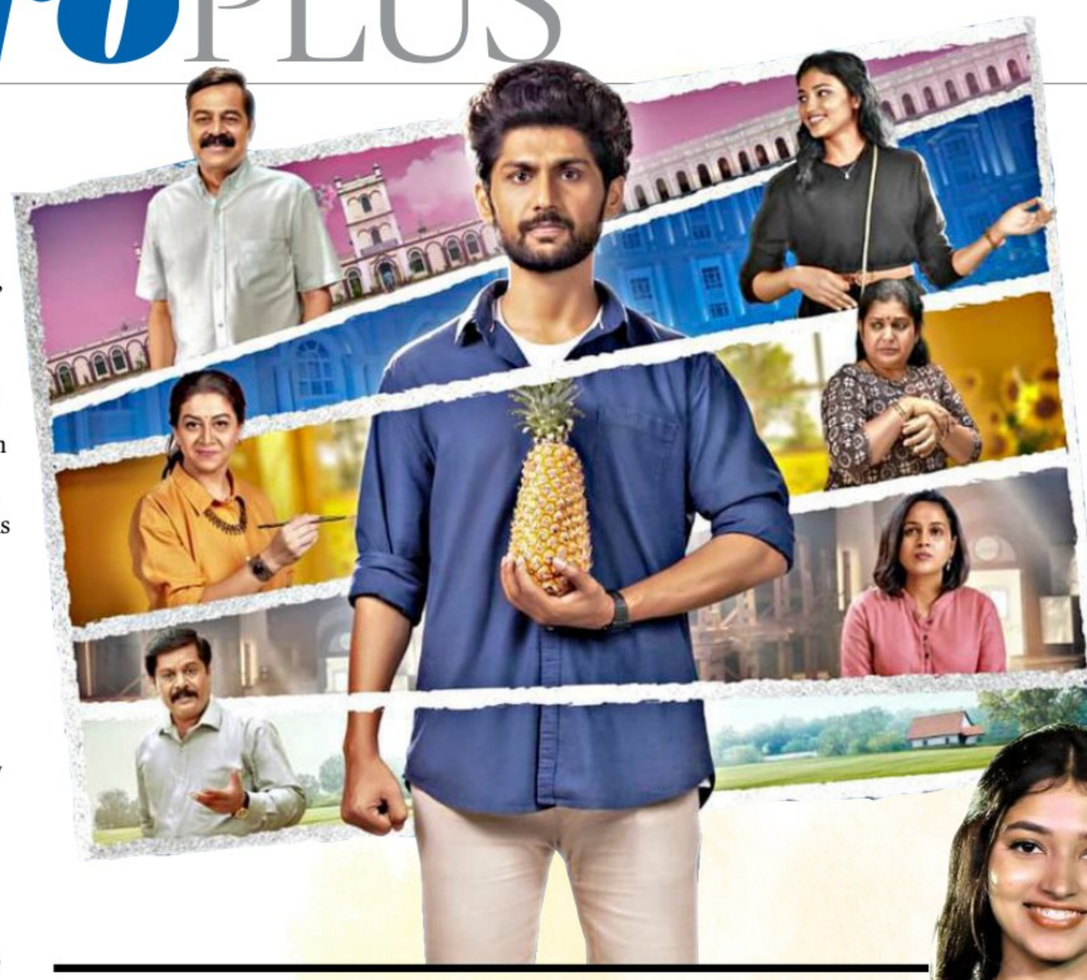
My Client intends to Purchase the immovable property bearing Property No.75 & 76, Assessment No.47, PID No.7985568282, Property 'e' Katha No.337/75 & 76/47 Situated at Laggere Pipeline, Chowdeshwari Nagar, at BBMP Ward No.73 - Kottigepalya Bangalore, along with building constructed thereon, within the administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring 28x 27 Ft. totally measuring 756 Sq. Feet and which is morefully mentioned and described as 'ITEM-I' in the Schedule herein below and Property No.75 & 76, Assessment No.47, PID No.7985568282, Property 'e' Katha No.337/75 &76/47 Situated at Laggere Pipeline, Chowdeshwari Nagar, at BBMP Ward No.73 - Kottigepalya Bangalore, along with building constructed thereon, within the administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring 28x15 Ft. totally measuring 420 Sq. Feet at BBMP No.73 – Kottigepalya, from its present Owner Mrs. Padmini W/o Sri.Padmarju Residing at No.23, 5th Main, 3rd Cross, KHB Colony, Basaveshawara Nagar , Bangalore - 560079.
That the Mrs. Padmini W/o Sri. Padmarju has represented that the Original Sale Deed vide Dated 16/02/1981, Registered as document No.16413/1980-81, executed by Sri. Chikkapillappa in favour of Smt. Aravamma W/o M. Mallaiah, has irretrievably lost and untraceable.
Any person or persons asserting any rights, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the schedule property and documents thereof, against the owner or objecting to such Sale in favour of my client should lodge the claims with the undersigned **within Seven (07) days** of the issuance of this Public Notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to the schedule property or any part thereof, after which period my client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature in respect of the schedule properties and proceed with the proposed Sale Transaction.

SCHEDULE
ITEM No. 01: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Property No.75 & 76, Assessment No.47, PID No.7985568282, Property 'e' Katha No.337/75 & 76/47 Situated at Laggere Pipeline, Chowdeshwari Nagar, at BBMP Ward No.73 - Kottigepalya Bangalore, along with building constructed thereon within the administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike and the Site totally measuring 756 Sq. Ft., including all rights, privileges and appurtances and bounded as follows: **East by:** Private Property bearing No.56 and Road, **West by:** Road, **North by** : Private Property bearing No.74, **South by:** Private property bearing No. 75 & 76.
ITEM No.02: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Property No.75 & 76, Assessment No.47, PID No.7985568282, Property 'e' Katha No.337/75 &76/47 Situated at Laggere Pipeline, Chowdeshwari Nagar, at BBMP Ward No.73 - Kottigepalya Bangalore, along with building constructed thereon within the administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike and the Site totally measuring 420 Sq. Ft., including all rights, privileges and appurtances and bounded as follows: **East by:** Road, **West by:** 25 Ft. Road, **North by:** Property belongs to Smt. Padmini, **South by:** Property belongs to Smt. Roopa

C. S. RAVISHANKAR, Advocate
M/s. RAVISHANKAR, ASSOCIATES
No.392, I Floor, 13th Cross, 6th Main Road, Sadashivnagar, Bangalore- 560 080.
Ph. 2361 0631
e-mail: ravishankarassociates@yahoo.com
Dated : 25/04/2025

Niveditha Shivarajkumar, daughter of Kannada superstar Shivarajkumar, opens up on the journey of producing her first feature film, *Firefly*

Set to soar



Fledgling feat Niveditha Shivarajkumar (left), the poster for *Firefly*, actor Rachana Inder. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Vivek MV
vivek.mv@thehindu.co.in

Growing up in a film family, the dinner table conversations wouldn't always be about movies, contrary to general perception, says Niveditha Shivarajkumar.

"I think it was Abhishek Bachchan who once said that, as a kid, he believed everyone's house would be the same. I relate to his statement. As a child, I saw many fans outside my house, and I thought it was normal. Nobody sat me down and told me that my dad and grandfather were superstars," she says.

Daughter of Kannada superstar Shivarajkumar, Niveditha has finished producing her first feature film, *Firefly*, starring and directed by Vamshi. The Kannada film hit the screens on April 24, 2025, the birth anniversary of Niveditha's grandfather, the legendary actor Dr Rajkumar.

"It's a special day for us. He (Rajkumar) was a gentle person who would sit and sing for us. We watched a lot of films together at home. When I would come home from school and see his slippers outside, I would be thrilled that he was back home from shooting. I remember watching *Lagaan* with him. The only theatrical film of my grandfather I watched was *Shabdavedi* (2000), his last movie. His whole life was about movies. That's all he knew," she recollects.

Niveditha remembers visiting the sets of Shivarajkumar's films during the summer holidays. However, she considered films as a serious career option only after completing her education.

"I was never interested in becoming an actor. The conversation turned to me starting a business or supporting the family business. I wasn't interested in that either. So, I got into production without substantial experience in it. It was like shooting in the dark, but I learned it on the job."

With *Firefly*, she attempts to prove there is no shortage of good makers in the Kannada film industry.

"The film revolves around Vicky, who is in his 20s. He has gone through something in his life. The movie is about his journey, as he meets many people, and how he tries to overcome loneliness and grief," she says.

In a conversation with *The Hindu* in November, Shivarajkumar had compared his daughter's ability to judge and decide as a producer to his mother, Parvathamma Rajkumar, who helmed the legendary production banner Poornima Enterprises.

"It was very kind of him to say that. I am barely a film old while her achievements are massive," says Niveditha.

"That said, she was a very bold and strong-willed producer. I am trying to follow that quality. I want to put my foot down and get things done in a way I want," she offers.

Niveditha gradually wants to emerge out of the shadows of her father's popularity.

"I think it will happen through my work. I don't want to escape the attention I get because of my father. It is something I was born with. I produced three web series (*Hate You Romeo, Honeymoon,* and *By Mistake*) before *Firefly*. I am doing my bit to stand out on my own," she says, adding that she has begun to read scripts for her next feature.

Call me Bob

As the much-loved bar opens an outlet on Wood Street, we ask the owners about what makes Bob's quintessentially 'Bangalore'

Comfort zone Quick bites designed as an accompaniment to the drinks makes Bob's stand apart. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Anagha Maareesha
anagha.maareesha@thehindu.co.in

Who is the "Bob" in Bob's Bar, Bengaluru's favourite watering hole? If you are an old Bangalorean, you already know. Bob is not a who. Like 'machha' or 'dude', it is a casual shorthand for your friend. Like the name, Bob's Bar is trying to capture a part of 'Bangalore' that seems to be slipping away – old-school rock, cheap quick bites, ever-flowing beer. As they open a new outlet, their fifth, on Wood Street, we try to pinpoint what made Bob's Bar an instant hit.

"We get our bar filled with 'Bobs'. Many are unknown but over the visits they become known Bobs. So it was a very apt name," says Ajay Gowda, a partner at Byg Ventures (the parent company) and the driving force behind Bob's. Ajay's vision for Bob's Bar is simple: to keep it real.

In 2018, the first Bob's Bar opened in Indiranagar. Set inside an old bungalow, it encapsulated a nostalgic vibe. The half plate portion size of the appetisers and the competitively priced drinks made it an instant hit. Located in a strategic location, it has been a community space where many have met their new friend groups, partners, or even investors. It has wicker furniture, black and white tiles, and colonial architecture. The graffiti on the walls is an ode to iconic institutions from the city; there are artworks depicting Premier Bookshop, Koshy's Cafe, MTR, Plaza Theater and Styx bar.

We sit down at a table at the new outlet in Wood Street.

"We have many outlets, but this is where we always wanted to be – the heart of Bengaluru, the old cantonment area," says Ajay.

The food includes quick bites and nibbles. Things like roast eggs, sandwiches, *kebabs*, *papad* and chips, and street-side Chinese stars. The food is an accompaniment to the drinks. The price point was decided so that it can be an everyday bar. "We did not want it to be somewhere where you have to dress up to go. We wanted to come back to the days of old Bengaluru pubs where you go as you are and you know everybody."

It may look like it all happened by chance, but Bob's has been crafted by design. The attention to detail captures the nuances of old pubs, and the local dishes are thoughtfully curated.

As I walk out, I hear the table next to me yell, "Come on Bob. You can have one more drink". Clearly, in Bengaluru, some things do not change.

Cost for two ₹900. At Wood Street. Call 741725062 for details

Shot on OnePlus #FramesofIndia

Universal appeal Playwright Matthew Spangler. SUDHAKARA JAIN

An epic friendship

Matthew Spangler talks of his adaption of *The Kite Runner* that has been running in theatres worldwide for 20 years

Priyamedha Dutta
priyamedha.dutta@thehindu.co.in

'For you, a thousand times over.' These words from Khaled Hosseini's acclaimed novel *The Kite Runner* became symbolic of the friendship between Amir, a privileged Pashtun, and his servant Hassan, a Hazara boy. Set against the backdrop when the rise of the Taliban regime (dominated by Sunnis) in Afghanistan led to the persecution of the Hazara population (Shia Muslims). The books explores the themes of friendship, betrayal, guilt, and redemption through the protagonist Amir.

Now a celebrated stage adaption by Matthew Spangler, *The Kite Runner* was recently staged by Arena Theatre Productions under the direction of Tahera S. For longtime fans and newcomers, the production drew a standing ovation and left many in the audience teary-eyed by the powerful narration on stage. What made it even more special was Spangler's presence, who was equally moved seeing his adaption on stage.

Spangler's adaption of *The Kite Runner* has been in production for 20 years now being played in theatres worldwide. Spangler is also a professor of performance studies at San José State University in California, where he teaches courses on how refugees and asylum seekers and other immigrants are represented in plays.

Talking about the challenges of adapting an epic into a play, Spangler says, "With this book, the challenge is length, if you read it aloud, it takes almost 15 hours, while the pay is just over two hours. How do you condense a 15-hour long story to two hours? People who love the book come to the play and say, 'Oh, you didn't leave anything out,' when I might have left 13 out of the 15 parts out."

Even though the play was previously showcased in Mumbai few years back, this was Spangler's first time watching it on stage in India, "The audience here listen carefully... They are emersed in the story as it unfolds, which I feel was really beautiful."

Theatre plays an important role in cross-cultural understanding and empathy building, Spangler says. "Amir comes from a very specific background, and life experiences; growing up in Afghanistan and coming to the United States as a refugee, he comes from a Muslim culture; but he is not practicing as you can see from the play. As an adult he wants to do the right thing for the boy (Hassan's son Sohrab). At the end, you understand him at more emotional level."

There has always been a production of *The Kite Runner*, somewhere over the past 20 years, Spangler says.

"I have seen this play staged in different countries including London, Canada, or Russia. It is just so unique for a writer to be able to see your play in different contexts and settings."

Counting Samuel Beckett's works as his greatest inspiration, Spangler says, "I did my PhD and my Master's degree in Irish theatre, and it has been a great influence on my work."

The Kite Runner will be staged on May 4 at 3.30pm and 7.30pm at Ranga Shankara. Tickets are available at the venue and online.

STEPOUT

On the beat
Attend 'Focus Group Radio - African Music Exploration', a session on 'rethinking sound, production and the experience as a whole'. The team will be joined by Priyansha, known for her sound and craft. Focus Group Radio is committed to building experiences that are inclusive for women, non-binary, transgender and queer folks.
At Indiranagar SOCIAL, April 26, 8pm onwards. Call 8657896572/73 for tickets.

Second to none
Explore Sarjapur Bazaar — a neighbourhood flea market, where the venue transforms into a bustling bazaar. Enjoy a range of fashion and art products, as well as unique experiences. Pick up curated finds with food and drinks, whilst connecting with the community. Entry is free.
The flea market will be held at Sarjapur Social, Saket Callipolis, Sarjapur Main Road, on April 26, between 2pm and 11pm.

Akshaya Tritiya

Advertisers' Feature

Faith and Fortune Align on Akshaya Tritiya in Bengaluru

As Bengaluru gets ready to celebrate Akshaya Tritiya on April 30, one custom is as strong as ever, Gold buying. But this time around, the age-old tradition has a twist—skyrocketing gold prices have redefined the way Bengalureans are now celebrating the festival of prosperity.

Gold prices have reached an all-time high in the city, with 22-carat gold crossing almost ₹89,000 per 10 grams, a sharp increase from last year's ₹58,000–₹60,000. However, despite the upward trend, local jewellers say they are getting a continuous flow of consumers, indicating that belief in tradition still trumps market fears.

"Gold is not a commodity for us—it's an emotion, particularly on Akshaya Tritiya," says a third-generation buyer in Bengaluru. "People are settling for smaller purchases or digital gold, but they're not leaving empty-handed."

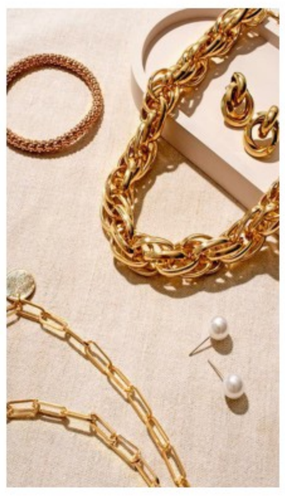
Akshaya Tritiya, named from the Sanskrit term Akshaya, which refers to something eternal or imperishable, ranks as one of the most sacred days of the Hindu calendar, the festival itself represents unlimited prosperity.

Historically, new business ventures and gold buying on this day have ensured a belief of permanent fortune. The perception is particularly strong in Bengaluru, where young executives and veterans alike are looking towards the yellow metal—both for religious beliefs, but more importantly, as a hedge against uncertain times.

Although the essence of the festival continues to remain the same, consumerism has adapted itself due to the high costs. Trends of sorts that are in vogue include thin jewellery pieces like minimalist bangles, chains, and earrings, demand for gold coins and investment-grade products and demand for digital gold and Sovereign Gold Bonds.

City retailers are reacting with great offers on making charges, personalized EMI plans, and even online consultations for customers who do not want to visit crowded shops.

"Footfalls are up by 40% from last year, but the average ticket size is marginally lower," said a store manager at a popular retail chain in Jayanagar. "People are being careful but still want to respect the tradition."



One of the most visible trends of the year is the growth in digital gold investments, particularly among younger and technology-savvy consumers. Fintech platforms have witnessed a surge in buys, with convenience and flexibility being the driving factors.

As Bengaluru mingles ancient traditions with new investments, Akshaya Tritiya 2025 illustrates tradition evolving to suit current realities. The noble metal still remains in place—not only in lockers, but in minds.

Whether a 1-gram gold coin or a judiciously chosen digital token, the message is loud and clear: prosperity, like tradition, finds a way to glitter—even during times of change.

Jewellery That Tells Your Story - N S Jewells

Tucked away in the charming neighbourhood of Lavelle Road, just a short walk from UB City on Walton Road, N S Jewells has quietly grown into one of Bangalore's most trusted jewellery destinations.

For over 14 years, we've been crafting more than just ornaments—we've been creating memories. From traditional heirloom pieces to modern statement designs, we understand that jewellery isn't just something you wear—it's something you feel, something you celebrate, something that becomes part of your journey.

Whether you're a bride choosing her wedding set, a husband planning a surprise anniversary gift, or someone just looking to treat themselves to something special—we're here to help you find that perfect piece.

Our Collections

We believe there's a piece of jewellery for every story. That's why our collections are designed to match every mood, moment, and memory:

Gold & Diamond Jewellery – Classic, elegant, and detailed with love. Perfect for festivals, weddings, or simply shining a little brighter every day.

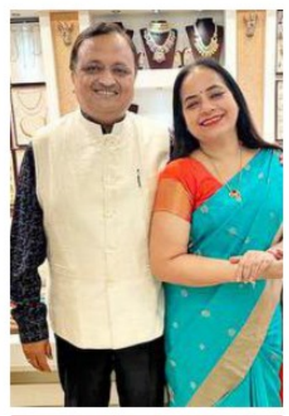
Antique Heirloom Jewellery: Our carefully curated antique jewellery is a testament to Indian craftsmanship and the enduring legacy of our magnificent gemstones.

Bridal Jewellery – From traditional temple sets to contemporary bridal elegance, we'll help you shine on your big day.

At N S Jewells, we believe great service should feel like a conversation, not a transaction. That's why our services are personal, thoughtful, and focused entirely on you:

Custom-Made Jewellery – Got a design in mind? Let's bring it to life together. Our team of expert designers and craftsmen can create a one-of-a-kind piece that's uniquely yours.

Same-Day Delivery (Bangalore) – Need something last-minute? We've got you covered. Select pieces are available for same-day delivery within the city.



Sunil Kumar & Anju Mutha

Jewellery Care – From polishing to repairs, we help you take care of the pieces you love.

Gifting Solutions – Whether it's a festival, a birthday, or a corporate event, we'll help you create personalized gifts that leave a lasting impression.

Why People Love N S Jewells

Because we keep it personal. Because we listen. Because we treat every piece of jewellery as a reflection of someone's emotion, memory, or milestone. Over the years, our customers have become part of our extended family.

They walk in for a necklace and return for the warmth, the honesty, and the connection. And for us, that means everything.

NS JEWELLS
ETHNIC GLORY

Happy
Akshaya Tritiya

A celebration of abundance
and prosperity

DATE : 30th April 2025, Working 8.30 am - 9.00 pm
NS Jewells | NS Silver
7/2 Walton Road, Lavelle Road, Opp Good Earth, Bangalore
Ph: 080 - 4151 8008 /09 | nsjewells@gmail.com | instagram : nsjewells

Hard times: A restaurant at Ganganagar in Bengaluru. Owners of several eateries say that the industry across the State is struggling and there has been a massive slowdown in business. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Beyond the bill: How the food business is dealing with price rise

Bengaluru may be at the forefront of the culinary scene in India, but a peak behind the curtain reveals that the reality is starkly different. The industry is fraught with obstacles of managing staff, increasing tariffs, overhead costs, and the rising price of produce. How do businesses cope? **Anagha Maareesha** finds out

Opening a cafe is a dream for many, but sustaining a restaurant business in Bengaluru is not an easy task. The city leads the way in food trends and hip new restaurants. However, it is a different story if you dig deeper. It is not all smooth sailing, especially in light of the new price hikes in coffee, milk, and gas cylinders. Across the city, small eateries, cafes, and bakeries face several challenges.

Rising costs

Udayshankar Shenoy is the chef and owner of Lazy Suzy, a popular cafe in Indiranagar. "Many places are shutting down within the next four months. We are fighting now to survive and not be one of them. Good business, profit, growth ... These are far-off topics now," he laments.

He explains how prices on the menu at restaurants are based on many factors. "We cannot decide prices on our whims and fancies. It depends on things such as raw materials, wages, the electricity rate and more. And then there is a margin. The profit margin is usually only about 15%. And that is also different for different dishes. A caramel custard may be 10%, while a Belgian chocolate cake that uses imported and expensive chocolate only gives you around 6%. The price of chocolate has doubled in the last eight months."

Narasimha Rao is a retired bank manager who opened Aaha Thindi, a darshini on Cunningham Road, last year. There have been three or four restaurants that have come and gone at the location in a decade. He says Cunningham Road may be a posh and central area, but the average spending power of customers is low. Darshinis are particularly struggling with milk and coffee price hikes. Currently, they charge ₹15 for a coffee; roadside stalls offer it for ₹10.

They have not yet increased prices for these reasons, and it is the business owners who take a hit.

Why raising prices is not an easy option

"No matter what we do or say, customers have a set pattern in their minds. They feel, a microbrewery can charge such an amount of money, while a cafe can only charge only that much," says Udayshankar.

Chef Tresa Francis transitioned from being a home caterer to running her restaurant inside the Bangalore International Centre (BIC) in Domlur. She serves home-style food from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka. She launched in July 2024. Hailing from Kerala, she has been in Bengaluru for almost three decades now. Her main challenge was moving from her own space to trusting others to do the cooking in a commercial set-up.

"It is difficult to find people to come and work with you if you do not come from this industry. You do not have as many contacts," says Tresa, who used to be a corporate lawyer. For a small business like this, the cost of produce makes a big difference.

"When I started in July, the cost of one coconut was ₹25, right now it is ₹55. That is more than double. Especially for Kerala food, I use 50 coconuts a day. When I designed the menu, it was designed with that cost in mind." Tresa changes the menu based on seasonality, for example, she is using raw jackfruit as it is in season. "This gives me more freedom to take the prices up accordingly."

> We cannot decide prices on our whims and fancies. It depends on things such as raw materials, wages. the electricity rate and more. And then there is a margin.
>
> **UDAYSHANKAR SHENOY**
> chef and owner of Lazy Suzy

In February, she increased the prices of appams by ₹20. It used to be ₹80 and now it is ₹100. "I had someone come and point it out. But I do not have a choice."

Staff woes

Many restaurants in the city provide staff with rented accommodation, medical expenses, and food. This accommodation is usually in the vicinity of the restaurant, and when it is in a location such as Indiranagar or CBD, these costs add up as well.

Dechen Belliyappa, along with her husband Sujith Belliyappa, runs Utse Kitchen on Kamaraj Road, a Tibetan and Nepali restaurant. They opened the restaurant in January 2017. Dechen says prices are increasing, not just of milk and produce, but also of meats such as mutton, which is now around ₹800 a kilogram. "We have not cut down on salaries or fired any staff. We work with what we have and do not hire new members."

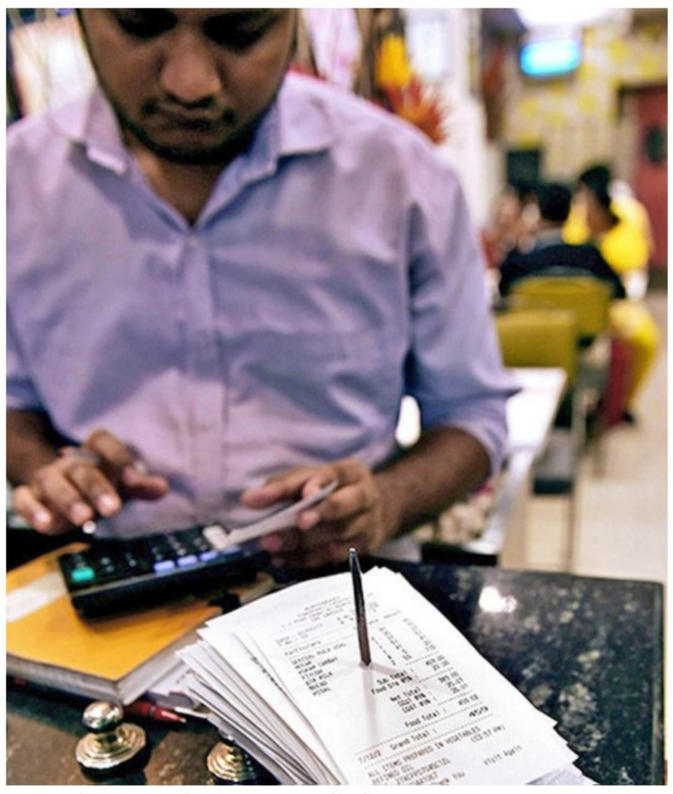
Her solution? "We cross-train our staff and cut costs in the kitchen in sustainable ways." Most of her staff come from Nepal and Assam. A few local single mothers from the area are employed in the housekeeping department. Even if they do not come for the full shift, they do part-time shifts. The staff stay in accommodation provided by her, close to Utse.

"We train everyone in different roles. So a lady in the kitchen will do housekeeping, or sometimes, if we are really busy, she helps out in service too. By cross-training staff, they ensure that staff from other departments can multi-task in the kitchen or vice versa," she explains.

Satyendra Chaupal has been running small eateries in Bengaluru since 2013. Hailing from the Madhubani region of Bihar, he first came to the city in 2010. Before the pandemic, he had three restaurants in the Dairy Circle and Koramangala area, mainly catering to college students and office workers. These had to close due to the lockdowns. A jolly man and a follower of the poet Kabir, Satyendra did not lose hope. Today, he runs an eatery called Sparsh Grand in Koramangala that serves home-style, simple north Indian fare to residents of the area.

Mavalli Tiffin Room, Lalbagh Road, Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

"I have five staff members in my restaurant currently. They all come from my village, and we all know each other back home." He says the biggest challenge he faces is managing the staff. Everyone wants holidays at the same time, for example, when there is a festival, they all want to go home, since they are far from their families. At times like these, Satyendra resorts to his people skills. "I have a great rapport with my staff. Many of my employees return to work with me after getting other jobs, because I know the value of treating people well," he says.



Service charge is a voluntary payment by the customer.

Service charge dilemma

The Delhi High Court recently ruled that service charges or tips are a voluntary payment by the customer, and they cannot be made mandatory by hotels and restaurants. In the restaurant business, the usual practice is to collect the service charge over the month, and at the end of the month, it is distributed among the staff and towards the facilities provided to them.

Most of the staff at Lazy Suzy come from Darjeeling, Manipur, Assam and Odisha. Udayshankar says, "My boys, apart from their salaries, were getting the service charge. They usually send all the salaries home, and with the service charge money, sustain themselves here." The service charge is a huge incentive for them. "A few years ago, I was not charging service tax. For that reason, finding staff was difficult. They would ask, 'Do you have a service charge? If not, we cannot work here.'"

The cafe has 18 staff members. In an establishment such as this, for someone making a salary of ₹16,000, they get an additional ₹2,000 in service charge. That may change if the service charge tab is removed from the bills.

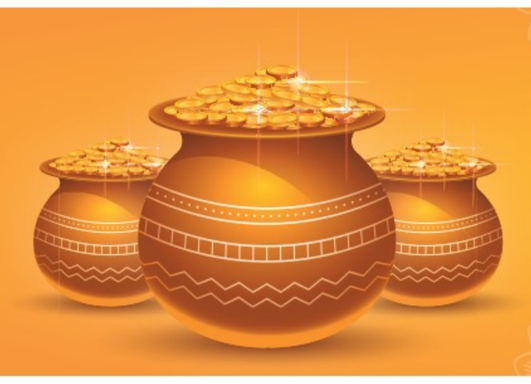
Bittu K. is a 23-year-old who works as a waiter in a small eatery in BTM Layout. He says living in a city like Bengaluru is very difficult for him. He has a big family back home in Bihar that he needs to support, and the wages are not enough. He says unfair treatment from the restaurant owners and long working hours add to their distress. He has changed jobs twice in the past two years because of either the restaurant shutting down or the behaviour of the owners. He adds that many of his co-workers are in the same boat, but they do not want to talk about it as they are afraid of losing jobs.

Across the city, in Fraser Town, lies a legacy brand, Albert Bakery. The bakery has been dishing out khova naans and puffs for 123 years now, since it began in 1902. Sabir Faizan, who runs the family business, says, "So many of our ingredients have gone up in prices...maida, chocolate, margarine, frying oil. Eventually, we incur the costs. It is our staff that faces a lot of problems, as there is also an increase in the cost of living for them. Ongoing road work in our area has reduced the rate of walk-in customers as well." He says just breaking even is a challenge.

About the key to surviving in the business, he says one important aspect is being content with what you have. The bakery has one outlet, and they open only at 3 p.m. They make everything fresh daily and use no additives in their products. "Even if I open ten branches, I may feel it is not enough for me. I have sustained by keeping my products simple and good."

Chethan Hegde. Bengaluru chapter head of the NRAI (National Restaurant Association of India) says restaurants all over the State are struggling and there has been a massive slowdown in business. Announcements are made about increased costs; there is no system to it. They face competition from online aggregators, and cannot pass on the costs to the customers. "The restaurant industry is the DNA of the city. If these cost rises are not addressed soon, it will be a killer blow," he added.

Customers, too, are facing the brunt of it. Aasaavari Mohana Gobburu is a 22-year-old college student. She says, "On a student budget, I cannot eat out more than twice or twice a month. There was a restaurant I used to frequent last year, where my average bill was under ₹500. Now, in the same place, it is around ₹800. They have increased their costs." She feels it is not worth eating out. When there are no other options to eat in hostels or PGs, students would rather just eat a packet of chips or fast food instead.



Akshaya Tritiya

Advertisers' Feature

Plan Your Akshaya Tritiya Shopping Wisely:

Budget with an Investment Mindset

Before stepping into a showroom or browsing online, decide on a realistic budget. While it's tempting to get carried away with festive excitement, setting a budget helps you make conscious decisions. Allocate funds not just for ornamental purchases but also for wealth-building. Precious metals like gold and platinum are known for their long-term value, making them reliable investments during uncertain economic times.

Prioritize Certified Jewellery

When buying gold or diamond jewellery, always look for certification. Choose BIS-hallmarked gold for assured purity and IGI or GIA-certified diamonds to guarantee quality and authenticity. Certified jewellery retains better resale and exchange value, making your purchase secure and future-ready.

Balance Sentiment with Strategy

Akshaya Tritiya shopping often involves choosing designs that are festive or meaningful. While buying something traditional or ornamental is a beautiful way to celebrate the occasion, it's also wise to include timeless pieces like gold coins, classic bangles, or simple chains. These items hold their value over time and are easier to liquidate or upgrade when needed.

Make the Most of Festive Offers

Many jewellers offer attractive deals during Akshaya Tritiya — reduced making charges, festive pricing, or complimentary gifts.

These offers can significantly improve the overall value of your purchase. Don't hesitate to ask about promotions or compare options to ensure you're getting the best deal.

Explore Exchange and Upgrade Options

If you have old or unused gold at home, consider exchanging it. Many reputed jewellers offer additional value per gram during the festive period. This is a great opportunity to update your collection while making the most of what you already own.

By planning ahead and shopping wisely, you can make your Akshaya Tritiya purchase a beautiful blend of tradition and smart investment.

Shree Sai Gold Palace

T.A. Sharavana
Managing Director

Welcome to Shree Sai Gold Palace, where craftsmanship meets trust, and tradition blends seamlessly with modern elegance.

For over two decades, we have had the privilege of being part of your most cherished moments — from engagements and weddings to festivals and personal milestones. At Shree Sai Gold Palace, jewellery is not just a product; it is an emotional investment. Each piece we create reflects our commitment to purity, quality, and the values that define our legacy.

Celebrate the Festival of Prosperity with Gold that Lasts Forever

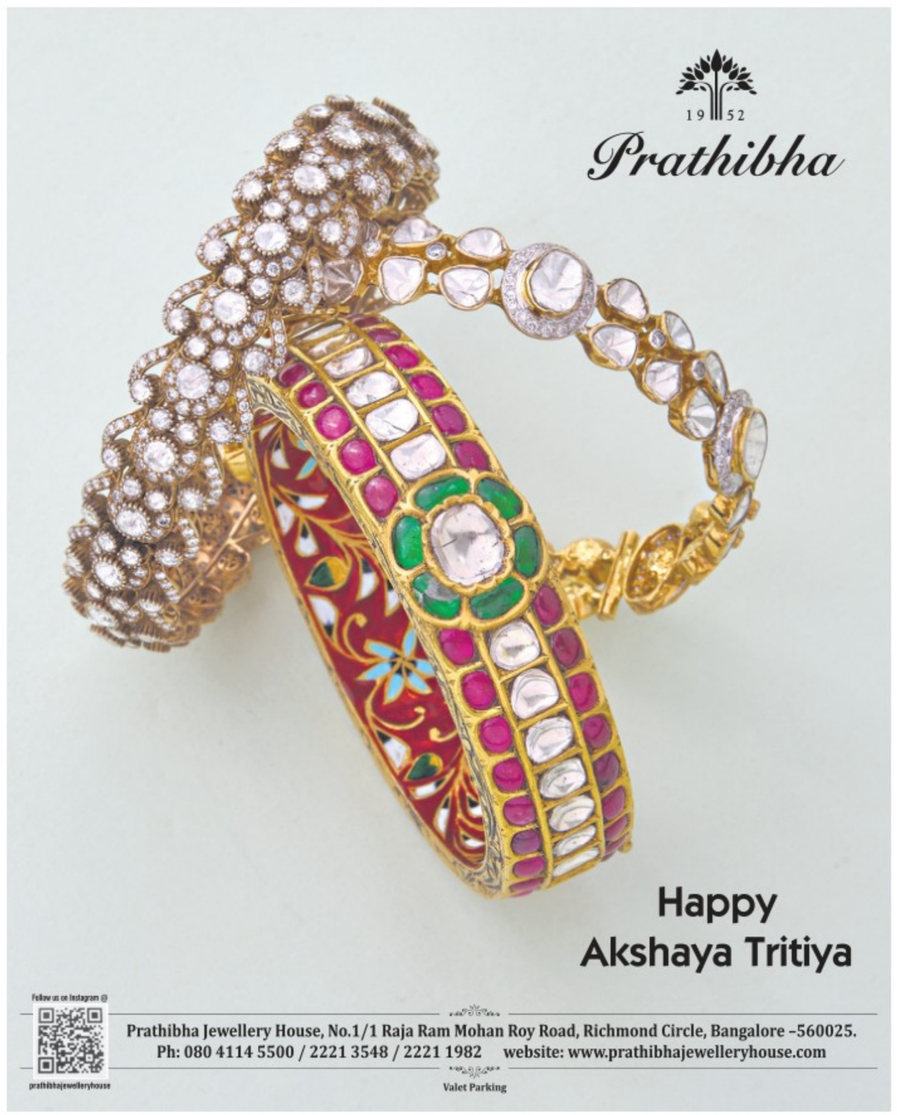
This Akshaya Tritiya, step into abundance and elegance with Shree Sai Gold Palace's most anticipated festive offers!

This Akshaya Tritiya, make a purchase of ₹50,000 or more and receive a silver idol blessed at Ayodhya's Shri Ram Temple

Buy Gold at Dubai Rate : Special launch-day pricing: Customers can purchase gold at Dubai market rates, which are often lower than local prices.

Get 1 Gram Gold FREE : On the purchase of every 1 carat of diamond jewellery, customers receive 1 gram of gold absolutely free.

₹100 Extra per Gram on Gold Exchange : When exchanging old gold for new gold jewellery, customers will get ₹100 extra per gram, offering greater value for their old ornaments.


1952
Prathibha
Happy
Akshaya Tritiya
Follow us on Instagram @
prathibhajewelleryhouse
Prathibha Jewellery House, No.1/1 Raja Ram Mohan Roy Road, Richmond Circle, Bangalore -560025.
Ph: 080 4114 5500 / 2221 3548 / 2221 1982 website: www.prathibhajewelleryhouse.com
Valet Parking

Pure Since 1925
AUSPICIOUS NEW BEGINNINGS
BHIMA
Akshaya Tritiya
April 18th - May 1st 2025
ADVANCE BOOKING NOW OPEN
Pay Only 10%* Now
— FLEXI RATE VALID TILL 28TH APRIL 2025 —
Book in advance and buy your favourite jewellery at the booked rate or prevailing rate, whichever is lower.
GOLD
FLAT
₹2,000*
OFF ON EVERY 4 GRAMS
DIAMOND
FLAT
₹12,000*
OFF ON ₹80,000 WORTH OF DIAMONDS IN YOUR JEWELLERY
SILVER
FLAT
₹5,000*
OFF PER KG
SCRATCH & WIN
CASHBACK UP TO
₹200*
PER GRAM ON EVERY PURCHASE
LIMITED EDITION
24KT GOLD BAR
BLESSED AT THE SACRED SRI KRISHNA MATHA TEMPLE, UDUPI.
* T&C apply.
To locate store, scan QR code
BHIMA
BHIMA Helpline
1800-121-9076
(10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
bhimagold.com
BENGALURU: Dickenson Road • Jayanagar 3rd Block • Koramangala • HBR Layout
Rajajinagar • Marathahalli • Hoodi • Malleshwaram • Jayanagar 4th Block • Commercial Street

SHREE SAI GOLD PALACE
Redefining Jewellery
Gold | Diamond | Silver | Gems
BASAVANGUDI | HSR LAYOUT | YELAHANKA | K.R.PURAM | NAGARBHAVI | MALLESHWARAM
BENGALURU
Shree Sai Gold Palace
Now in Malleshwaram
Buying Gold this Akshaya Tritiya Brings Prosperity Home
Buy Gold at Dubai Rate
Advance Booking Started
GET 1GM GOLD FREE ON PURCHASE OF EVERY 1 CT OF DIAMOND JEWELLERY
GET ₹100 EXTRA PER GRAM ON EXCHANGE OF OLD GOLD TO NEW GOLD JEWELLERY
This Akshaya Tritiya
Make a Purchase of above
Rs. 50,000
and receive a silver idol blessed at Ayodhya's Shri Rama Temple
* T&C APPLY
Basavanagudi 63669 29823
HSR Layout 74062 27661
Yelahanka 95130 34919
K.R. Puram 63669 47191
Nagarbhavi 63648 94022
Malleshwaram 6364922918
Bengaluru

THE HINDU GROUP

THE HINDU
EDUCATIONPLUS career counselling 2025

Karnataka

Get expert guidance on entrance exams, admissions, and career choices at the 23rd edition of The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling 2025 Karnataka.

Meet experts in Medicine, Engineering, UPSC, CET, NEET, Chartered Accountancy, and Cost Accountancy. Explore top colleges and diverse career paths to make informed decisions about your future.

9:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Registration starts at 9:00 AM

FREE CAREER HANDBOOK

To register, scan the QR code or visit
newsth.live/CET2025PA

Bengaluru	Hubballi	Davangere	Mysuru	Vijayapura
April 26, 2025	April 26, 2025	April 27, 2025	May 3, 2025	May 6, 2025
Mangala Mantapa Auditorium NMKRV College 22nd Cross, Jayanagar 3rd Block	**K.L.E Society's Biotechnology Auditorium** B.V.B College of Engineering & Technology Campus, Vidyanagar.	**Bapuji B School (MBA College)** Lakeview Campus, S S Layout, Shamanur Road.	**Sahukar Chennaiah Auditorium** Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering, P.B. No.206, Gokulam III Stage.	**B.L.D.E.A's V.P. Dr.P.G.Halakatti College of Engineering and Technology** Ashram Road, Adarsh Nagar.

Bengaluru	Mangaluru	Bidar	Tumkuru	Kalaburagi
May 10, 2025	May 17, 2025	May 17, 2025	May 18, 2025	May 18, 2025
Sri Jagadguru Renukacharya College of Science, Arts and Commerce 9, Race Course Road, Ananda Rao Circle.	**Sri Sudheendra Auditorium** Canara High School Campus, Kodialbail	**Sri Poojay Channa Basava Pattadevaru Rang Mandir** Near District Stadium.	**Birla Auditorium** Siddaganga Institute of Technology.	**Poojay Doddappa Appa Saba Bhavan** Poojay Doddappa Appa Saba Bhavan, Sharana Basava University.

Platinum Sponsors

PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY | REVA UNIVERSITY Bengaluru, India | The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (Set up by an Act of Parliament)

Gold Sponsors

CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY An Autonomous Institution | CHANAKYA UNIVERSITY | EAST POINT GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS | RV UNIVERSITY | RAMAIAH UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Silver Sponsors

ADICHUNCHANAGIRI UNIVERSITY | CHRIST (DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY) | CMR UNIVERSITY | INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY | JSS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH | JSS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY | KAMMAVARI SANGHAM GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS | MALNAD COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, HASSAN | MSIL | Nandini | SIR M. VISVESVARAYA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY | SOUNDARYA GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS | VVCE

Associate Sponsors

ABHINAVA EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION (R) DAVANAGERE ESTED 1959 | IDBI BANK i_learn EDUCATION LOAN | Karnataka Bank | KLE Technological University HUBBALLI | BENGALURU | BELGAUM | An Initiative of Sri. M. S. Ramaiah Navkis College of Engineering Hassan | SHAHEEN GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS | SDM Educational Society (R), Ujire

Regional Sponsor

MVJ COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING Since 1982 Engineering A Better Tomorrow

Snack Partner

Naturo® Made from real fruit

ENTRY FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS

For more details contact:
North Karnataka **97314 00992** | Mangaluru **94481 60126**
Bengaluru **97421 77743** | Mysuru **95902 59095**

CMYK M BG-BGE

I never expected my stories would appeal to Booker jury: Banu Mushtaq

At a discussion at Champaca Bookstore in Bengaluru, International Booker-nominated author Banu Mushtaq talked about the multiple factors that shaped her identity as a writer and an activist

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Banu Mushtaq begins by reading aloud a story from her International Booker-nominated short story collection, *Heart Lamp*, titled "The Arabic Teacher and Gobi Manchuri." The story is about a lawyer who hires an Arabic teacher, who is very fond of Gobi Manchuri, for her two young daughters, and a series of unexpected events that ensue because of the teacher's obsession with the cauliflower dish.

The activist, lawyer, and writer, at a recent book discussion at Champaca Bookstore, says, "I just wanted to express in this story about a mother's duty and compulsion to educate her girl children."

This "slightly funny story, even with a dark undercurrent," as writer and editor Kavya Murthy, who moderated the session, puts it, sets the tone for the rest of the evening, as Mushtaq, her translator Deepa Bhasthi, and Murthy discuss the book, its Booker nomination, the stereotypical depiction of Muslim characters in literature and the intricacies of language and translation, among other things.

"The most interesting thing for me as a Kannada speaker is that in this story we are very much in regional Karnataka, in the homes and places that are not frequently talked about," notes Murthy, before asking Mushtaq, "How important, as a writer, is it for you to make sure that a reader understands where you are located?"

Mushtaq says it isn't just about where but also about a "glimpse of what you are." According to her, during the 1980s, there were several social movements such as Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha and Dalita Sangharsha Samiti, and literary movements like the Bandaya Sahitya movement, theatre activism and feminist movements, all of which often coalesced together. "I am a product of those movements," says Mushtaq, whose hometown, Hassan itself, was one of the centres of such struggles.

The author of 'Heart Lamp', Banu Mushtaq, and the translator, Deepa Bhasthi, at a discussion at Champaca Bookstore in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Her many influences

As a budding writer, Mushtaq knew that she wanted to write, but "what shall I write?" was a huge question before her. Whose story she wanted to document, and the circumstances surrounding these characters were unknown to her. "I didn't know how I should frame these characters, and what I wanted to say through these characters."

In her opinion, other writers such as Fakir Muhammad Katpadi, Sara Aboobacker, and Bolwar Mahammad Kunhi all faced the same critical issue. "Till then, in Kannada literature, Muslim characters were depicted in black and white. Either they were very beautiful, good people, or villainous characters," says the spry 77-year-old. "There was no grey area. I was just confused."

"I started thinking about it, and posed this question to literary people in our workshops," she says. "They guided me and told me to write about your people... yourself... your surroundings... your feasts... your joys and sorrows and challenges."

That is how she started writing, over five decades ago. "I started to write as a woman, my identity even today, and started challenging the inequalities," says Mushtaq, who constantly questioned the idea of the "mainstream" in her stories. "Whether it was a kitchen, a mosque or a house, I started to speak through the voice of a woman, and that too, a Muslim woman."

> I started to write as a woman, my identity even today, and started challenging the inequalities.
>
> **BANU MUSHTAQ**
> author

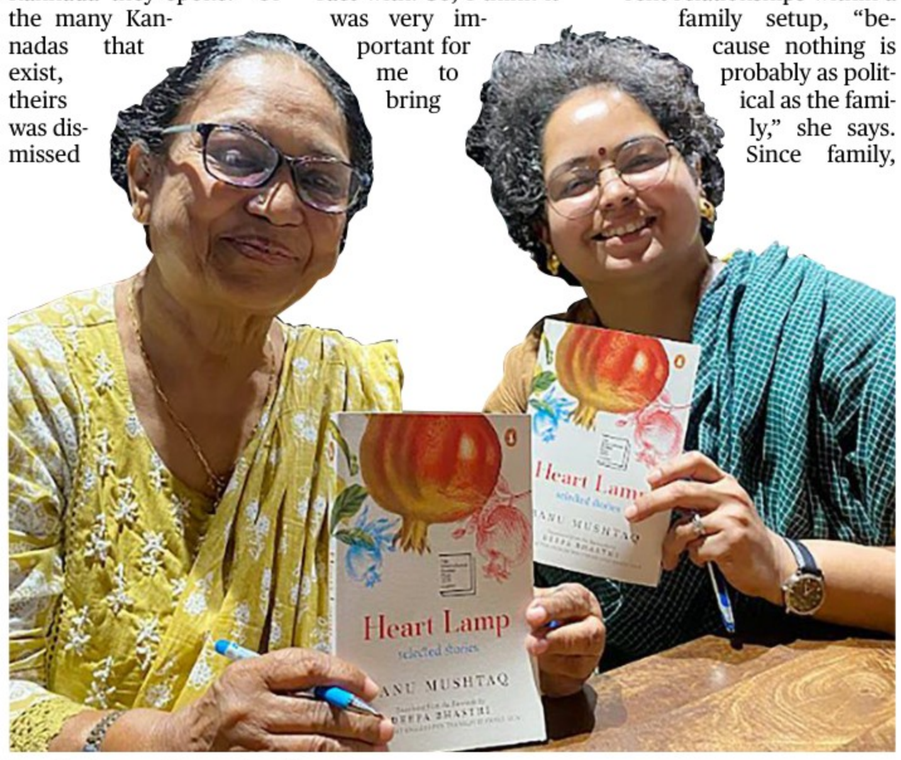
Of language & meaning

The discussion then veers towards the polyphony in Kannada literature, which "is not just one sound," says Murthy, referring to the translator's note in the book that offers insights into the Bandaya Sahitya movement. The movement, which started in the 1970s and 80s as "an act of protest against the hegemony of upper caste and mostly male-led writing that was being published and celebrated," writes Bhasthi.

She also points out that it urged women, Dalits and other social and religious minorities to tell stories from within their own lived experiences and in the Kannada they spoke. "Of the many Kannadas that exist, theirs was dismissed as folksy, in contrast to the 'prestige dialect' from the Old Mysore region that remains most used in popular culture," states the note.

Murthy comments on the "changing register of language" and how the short stories capture the nuances of Mushtaq's language style. "You can hear that Kannada language in your translation, which is quite a hard feat...," she tells Bhasthi, who responds by talking about how polyglossic our languages are. "Maybe, in Bengaluru, you're used to listening to or speaking in English, but the moment you get out of the city, we are all living in multiple languages," she says.

In Hassan, for instance, where Mushtaq is from, "there must be four or five languages, which you interact with. So, I think it was very important for me to bring this idea of multiple languages." continues Bhasthi, who was also very clear that she didn't want the book to be in "proper English, whatever proper English is because none of us speaks proper English." The book has been translated explicitly for Indian readers, and she wants them to understand that "this translation comes from a certain culture and language, so it is a very deliberate English I use that has a very distinct Kannada hum to it."



Banu Mushtaq and Deepa Bhasthi.

Relationships at the core

Human relationships, core to the stories in *Heart Lamp*, were discussed in some detail at the event, with Bhasthi, who selected the stories, expanding on what drew her to them. The stories are about different relationships within a family setup, "because nothing is probably as political as the family," she says. Since family, in many ways, is a political battlefield, "each of the relationships that the characters deal with, in these stories, attempt to reflect how relationships can be seen, negotiated and understood," she says.

She also points to the universality of these stories, even though they are set in a particular context and community. "It is interesting how all of us who identify as women face the same kind of pressures from patriarchal diktats or religion," she says. "These are issues that women face all over the world because patriarchy is not restricted to Muslim, Indian or South Asian communities."

Bhasthi's views are echoed by Murthy, who describes the stories as having a "timeless quality" about them. "You can't tell which is older, which is newer, because they are very intimate." Mushtaq attributes her world-building both to the various social and literary movements that have shaped her and the many Muslim women she knows who "have created history and are heroes, but continue to remain in darkness." She continues, "I know them, their stories, their struggles..."

Mushtaq also admits that the Booker nomination surprised her because she saw these stories as very specific to Hassan in Karnataka. "I just wanted it to be published in English, but I never expected that these stories would appeal to the Booker jury," she says. "They understood the circumstances, the culture, the thought process, the environment and the turmoil. That is the great thing."

'Bengaluru is a city thriving with innovation, and strong academic institutions'

The University of Wolverhampton has launched the Wolverhampton-Bengaluru Centre for Research and Innovation at Bangalore City University, marking a major step in international academic collaboration to drive research, innovation, and opportunities for students and faculty

INTERVIEW

Ebrahim Adia

Sutapa Dey
BENGALURU

Forging a new bond in research, the University of Wolverhampton in the United Kingdom has recently opened a new centre on the campus of Bangalore City University. Born from a two-and-a-half-year vision shaped by professors of the universities, the Wolverhampton-Bengaluru Centre for Research and Innovation (WBC) is a testament to what happens when academic ambition meets a commitment to real-world change, say those behind the initiative.

In an exclusive conversation, Professor Ebrahim Adia, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Wolverhampton, sheds light on the origins of the centre, its strategic vision and the opportunities it aims to create for students, faculty and global research.

Excerpts from the conversation:

Ebrahim Adia

Tell us about the origin of the centre. How did it all come together?

The idea has been in development for over two and a half years. It began with two of our professors - Prof. Suresh Renukappa and Prof. Subhasini Suresh, who are originally from Bengaluru. When we explored the possibility of a presence in India, we naturally turned to them. They connected with Prof. Lingaraja Gandhi from Bangalore City University, who had recently completed a leadership programme in the UK. As it happened, I became Vice-Chancellor about 18 months ago, just as the idea was solidifying. I invited Prof. Gandhi, government officials, and academic leaders to Wolverhampton, and the partnership began to take shape. Today, we've launched the centre, and I'm incredibly proud of what we've achieved together.

Why is this centre important for the University of Wolverhampton?

It aligns with our vision to internationalise meaningfully. We already have operations in 14 countries, with 8,000 students studying Wolverhampton degrees worldwide. India, given its academic ecosystem and cultural ties, was a natural next step. The leadership at Wolverhampton is unique; our Chancellor, Lord Swaraj Paul, is of Indian origin, as are many members of my team, including myself. These shared values and personal connections give this partnership both strategic and emotional significance.

What are the centre's main areas of research collaboration?

We have based the centre on three core pillars: green innovation, future healthcare, and inclusive communities. In green innovation, we help businesses become more efficient, not just environmentally but economically. For future healthcare, we focus on tech solutions like remote patient monitoring. In inclusive communities, we research how to empower marginalised groups - by gender, race, economic status, or geography. These areas are urgent globally, and by combining our expertise with that of Bangalore City University, we can find innovative, culturally responsive solutions.

How did the values and missions of the two universities influence this collaboration?

These pillars reflect our broader research strategy, which we formalised about six months ago. What's exciting is how naturally these themes aligned with the strengths and vision of Bangalore City University. Both institutions have a legacy of offering opportunities to underrepresented communities, such as children whose parents had no or little educational background. In Wolverhampton, 71% of our students are the first in their families to attend university. The value of transforming lives through education is something we share with our Indian counterpart and it made the collaboration even more meaningful.

What specific opportunities will this centre open up for faculty and students, especially in India?

For faculty, it means access to joint research funding, international publication opportunities, and collaborations with leading experts across borders. For students, this translates into richer curricula, access to cutting-edge knowledge, and the possibility of internships and placements tied to global research projects.

Is this University of Wolverhampton's first-of-its-kind international partnership, or do you have other similar collaborations globally?

Yes, this is our first international centre focused entirely on research, innovation, and commercialisation. We have transnational education partnerships elsewhere in Singapore, Hong Kong, and China, where our partners deliver Wolverhampton degree programmes. But this centre is different. It's entirely for research. If it succeeds as we hope, it could become a model we replicate in other regions, such as Gujarat, which we are currently exploring.

Finally, why was Bengaluru chosen as the destination? Was it simply the people involved, or something more?

The personal connections helped, but Bangalore is an obvious choice even without that.

It's India's Silicon Valley, a city thriving with innovation, strong academic institutions, and a spirit of progress. It aligns perfectly with what we aim to achieve. We're incredibly grateful to Prof. Gandhi and Bangalore City University for embracing this partnership with such openness. We see this as just the beginning of something transformative.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 25, 1975

Works on NHs: Govt's Plea to Centre

Bangalore, April 24: The Karnataka Government has requested the Government of India to allot about Rs. 910 lakhs for taking up fresh works to improve the national highways passing through the State and also to meet the expenditure on maintenance and repair works, during the current year.

It has been proposed to complete during the current year itself works taken up during the Fourth Plan and which are now in an advanced stage of progress. The Government has proposed to increase the tempo of important works like the construction of missing links on the NH 18 and the construction of major bridges.

The bridge across the Malaprabha River near Hubli on National Highway 4 and the bridge across the same river on National Highway 13 are expected to be completed during the year. Karnataka has a total length of 1968.2 k.m (1,222 miles) of national highways passing through the State.

Though the State Government programme for the development of national highways amounted to Rs. 3,007 lakhs during the Fourth Plan, the Government of India sanctioned estimates only for works costing Rs. 1593 lakhs. However, due to financial stringency in the middle of the Plan period, the allocation was further reduced to only Rs. 1,050 lakhs for the entire Fourth Plan period.

Pak trade team visits HMT

Bangalore, April 24: An 11-member Pakistan Trade Delegation evinced keen interest in a select range of the State-owned HMT's products.

The members of the delegation, who went round several industrial establishments in the city after their arrival today, visited the HMT.

The leader of the delegation, Mr. Izharul Haque, had discussions with the HMT's Chairman, Dr. S. M. Patil.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

IN SHORT

Tradition of padayatras

The tradition of taking out padayatras from Maddur, Mandya, Malavalli, Ramanagara and Channapatna to seek divine blessings at M.M. Hills situated in Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district has been around for a long time. It was not unusual for elders, who were part of the padayatra, to stop by villages enroute looking for matrimonial alliances for their children.

Bachelors take out padayatras

According to K.M.Shivaprasad, the founder of Akhila Karnataka Brahmacharigala Sangha, the first padayatra by bachelors was in February 2023 from K.M. Doddi in Mandya to M.M Hills seeking divine assistance in their search for matrimonial partners. Their padayatra was restricted to bachelors, who had not been able to find a bride even after they had crossed 30 years.

'Bride crisis' in the election manifesto

The 'bride crisis' made it to the 2023 Assembly election manifesto with Janata Dal (S), which enjoys a significant support base in the Old Mysore region, announcing an incentive of ₹2 lakh to women marrying sons of farmers. JD (S) leader and former CM H.D. Kumaraswamy had acknowledged the scarcity of brides during his election campaign for the 2023 Assembly polls.

KRRS demands ₹5 lakh incentive

Before Chief Minister Siddaramaiah could present his State Budget in February 2024, the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) submitted a memorandum to him seeking, among other things, an incentive of ₹5 lakh from the government for brides tying the nuptial knot with young farmers.

Female foeticide linked to the crisis

The Akhila Karnataka Brahmacharigala Sangha founder, K.M. Shivaprasad, said the female foeticide could be linked to the scarcity of brides. He suspects the menace reached rampant proportions about two to three decades ago, leading to such a skewed gender ratio, depriving the present generation of young men of female life partners.

'Scarcity of brides' hits Old Mysore region

Finding brides for young farmers has become a social challenge in several parts of Karnataka. While thousands of eligible grooms registered for a mass marriage programme, the number of brides barely crossed 250. Farmers' leaders cite non-remunerative agriculture and the skewed sex ratio as key reasons for this issue

Laiqh A. Khan
MYSURU

About a month ago, residents of Maduvanahalli in Kollegal taluk of Chamarajanagar district witnessed the bizarre sight of a youth perched on the higher reaches of a metal structure supporting the overhead high-tension cables passing through the village.

Notwithstanding the cries of his mother and pleas by other villagers, who had gathered beneath, cautioning him against taking any extreme step, the youth, identified as Masanashetty, 27, waved at the people and held the high-tension electric wire with his hands to be instantaneously electrocuted.

Though rumours abound about his failed love life, his suicide has been attributed by the family to their search for a suitable life partner yielding no result, a pattern that has become common in the rural hinterland of the Old Mysore region. Masanashetty had lapsed into depression following the futile search for a bride.

"It has become really difficult to find brides nowadays in the villages," said Nataraj, a journalist with a vernacular daily in Kollegal, who has also been searching for an alliance for his son for the last two years, but in vain.

Appealing to almighty

Given the scarcity of brides, particularly for youth engaged in farming activities, young men from different villages across Mandya district have been taking out padayatras to religious shrines in Malai Mahadeshwara (MM) Hills situated in Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district for the last few years.

One such padayatra was taken out in March this year by a group of 50 young men from Averahalli in Mandya district to M.M. Hills. One of the youths, who was part of the more than 110-km-long padayatra, said seeking "divine intervention" in their quest for a life partner was one of the main reasons for their march.

"We will pray for good rains and a good harvest also. But, we will be seeking the blessings of the Almighty to help us get brides," said the youth while expressing disappointment over the girls and their parents spurning matrimonial alliances from young men engaged in farming activities in rural parts of the State.

"They prefer alliances from men who are in government service and possess property in cities like Bengaluru and Mysuru. If nobody marries children of farmers, what would be their fate?" he asked.

Brahmacharigala Sangha

Though the tradition of padayatra to religious shrines had been around for a long time with elders, who were part of the padayatra, stopping by the villages enroute and looking for suitable matrimonial alliances for their children, K.M. Shivaprasad from Malavalli taluk of Mandya district, who is also the founder of Akhila Karnataka Brahmacharigala Sangha, said the bachelors themselves started taking out padayatras about three years ago.

Shivaprasad, also a bachelor himself, recalled their first padayatra planned about three years ago after a hopelessly poor response from eligible brides for a mass marriage programme organised by a local religious mutt.

"While thousands of eligible grooms registered for the programme, the number of brides barely crossed 250," he claimed. Hence, they planned a padayatra of young men from the villages, who were not able to find brides even after crossing 30 years, to the M.M. Hills. Film actor Daali Dhananjaya flagged the padayatra from Venkateshwara Temple in K.M. Doddi in February 2023.

Explaining the gravity of the situation, Shivaprasad said his native T. Kagepura village in Mandya district has about 900 registered voters out of whom about 35 are bachelors past their mid-thirties, whose search for brides has remained futile so far. Similarly, the nearby villages of Talagavadi and Nelakamanhalli, which are slightly bigger than their village, have about 100 such bachelors each, he said.

Film actor Daali Dhananjaya posing with bachelors at Venkateshwara Temple in K.M. Doddi before the bachelors took out the padayatra in February 2023. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bachelors taking out a padayatra to M.M. Hills in February 2023. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"There are no girls available for youth born between 1985 and 1995. The few who were available for men in this age group are already married," he said.

Politicians step in

Meanwhile, the scarcity of brides for young men in the Old Mysore region has not remained just a social problem. Acknowledging the "bride crisis", Janata Dal (S), which enjoys widespread popularity among the people of the region, announced an incentive of ₹2 lakh to women marrying sons of farmers in the State in its manifesto released ahead of the 2023 Assembly elections. During the election rallies, former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy hoped the incentive would encourage girls to marry sons of farmers.

K.M. Shivaprasad, founder of the Akhila Karnataka Brahmacharigala Sangha

Even the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) took up the cudgels on behalf of the bachelors after the polls by petitioning Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to announce an incentive of ₹5 lakh from the government for brides marrying young farmers in the State Budget of 2024.

KRRS leader Badagalapura Nagendra pointed out that there were men from the farming community who are unmarried, even though they are 45 years old. "Finding brides for the young farmers has become a social problem because of the neglect of agriculture. In the absence of schemes for making agriculture a prosperous activity, many farmers are abandoning agriculture and migrating to urban areas," he lamented. Nagendra had also sought a loan of ₹25 lakh at simple interest to help the couple become economically strong by practising agriculture or allied activities.

What girls prefer

At a time when most matchmakers do not evince interest in the search for brides by sons of farmers, H.L. Yamuna, who runs a matrimonial service for bachelor-farmers among others, said the girls nowadays, most of whom are also educated, are very particular about the financial security of their would-be partners. They prefer youth employed in either government services or the Information Technology sector, drawing handsome salaries in urban areas like Bengaluru.

"The girls themselves perform the due diligence by not only checking social media profiles, but also making sharp inquiries," she said while narrating an incident in which a girl found out that a boy's actual share in an agricultural property was just a fraction after division of the family property.

Breaking barriers

Over the last few weeks, Shivaprasad said families from villages in Mandya and neighbouring districts have begun bringing brides from North Karnataka for their grooms. Also, a few youths have started breaking the caste barriers and marrying girls outside their castes. "But, a majority of such men are youngsters. Men born between 1985 and 1995 are still finding the going tough", he said. "When we bachelors meet informally, we wonder why partners meant for us are not to be found. Isn't it against the laws of nature?" he questioned, highlighting the key question of disparity in the gender ratio.

Dropping sex ratio

According to Karnataka's Civil Registration System (CRS) data, the child sex ratio at birth in Karnataka had dropped from 947 girls against 1,000 boys in 2021 to 929 girls against 1,000 boys in 2022. The gender disparity was found to be quite alarming in certain districts like Mandya, where it was 877 girls against 1,000 boys.

It is not surprising that one of the State's most sensational illegal female foeticide rackets in recent times was unearthed in Mandya district, where pre-natal sex determination tests were reportedly carried out in a jaggery unit. Among the thirteen people arrested were a doctor and his lab technician, who had allegedly performed 900 abortions in the three years.

After the racket was unearthed, the government took several steps, like announcement of cash rewards for people carrying out decoy operations, barring entry of attenders or relatives with the pregnant women to the ultrasonography room, and recommending an enhancement in the prison term and penalty for violation of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques rules. So, Shivaprasad suspects that the rampant female foeticide during the 1990s could be the reason for the present crisis of brides in the region.

(Those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani helpline at 104.)

'I lost my dad to bullets, but Kashmir has given me 2 brothers'

M.P. Praveen
KOCHI

Arathy Sarath displayed a strange, traumatic numbness as she recalled how she felt the coldness of a gun, which a militant put to her head moments after shooting her father right before her eyes at Baisaran Valley, Pahalgam, in South Kashmir on Tuesday afternoon.

"I don't know whether he intended to shoot me or did it merely to scare me. He was not in military uniform. He probably spared me after hearing the screams of my twin boys," Ms. Sarath, daughter of N. Ramachandran, 65, a native of Edappally district in Kerala who was among those killed in the terrorist attack, told the media on Thursday.

She was screaming out, holding on to her father's lifeless body. Then she heard her children crying out, "Amma let's move." "That probably awakened the mother in me. After all, there was nothing I could do to save my father. He was already dead," she said.

Ms. Sarath, her children and Ramachandran had just entered the large open valley around 2.10 p.m. Hardly 10 minutes later, she heard a loud noise. "It sounded more like a firecracker, and I wondered who was bursting crackers on this hilltop. Then I heard another noise, and at a distance I could see a man firing a gun. I told my father that it was a terror attack and cried out to lie low," Ms. Sarath said.

Grim memory: Arathy, daughter of Pahalgam terror attack victim N. Ramachandran, interacting with the media in Kochi. R.K. NITHIN

After being spared, she joined others fleeing down the hilltop along the horse route to the town. As her mobile regained signal, she rang her local cab driver, Musafir, who drove them away to safety.

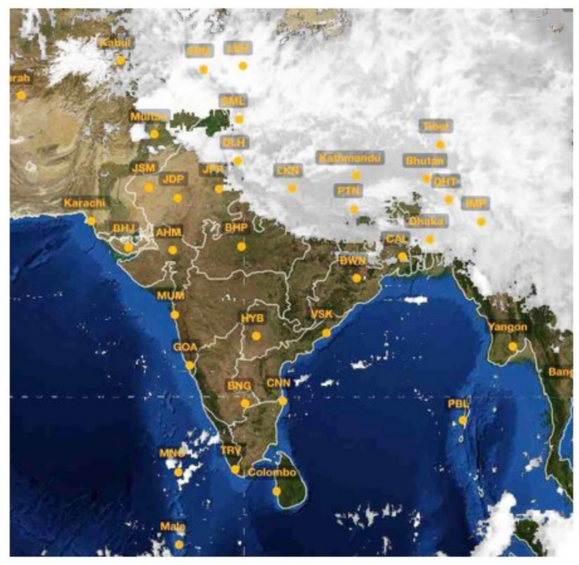
Next challenge

Ms. Sarath's next challenge was not to let her mother know about the death of her father. She told her mother that her father was only injured and was being treated. "In the hotel room where we were put up, I ensured the cable television remained disconnected. Even when I spoke to the police personnel, I asked them not to let my mother know about the tragedy," she said.

What Ms. Sarath, however, recollected with a lot of gratitude was the support of the local Kashmiris. "Musafir and another local driver Sameer were with me, even when I stood outside the morgue till 3 a.m. They treated me like a younger sister. Kashmir has now given me two brothers."

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. Heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over Rajasthan, Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and central Maharashtra

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	35.8	27.8	Kozhikode	17	36.0	26.6
Ahmedabad	—	42.1	26.9	Kurnool	—	41.6	29.3
Aizawl	—	34.5	20.2	Lucknow	—	41.8	22.0
Allahabad	—	43.6	21.7	Madurai	—	39.5	27.0
Bengaluru	—	35.4	23.8	Mangaluru	—	34.0	26.4
Bhopal	—	41.2	21.8	Mumbai	—	33.7	23.5
Bhubaneswar	—	36.8	28.1	Mysuru	—	35.2	21.4
Chandigarh	—	40.2	20.0	New Delhi	—	41.2	20.0
Chennai	—	35.5	29.1	Patna	—	41.4	25.3
Coimbatore	—	37.0	24.4	Port Blair	—	32.3	25.5
Dehradun	—	37.0	19.0	Puducherry	—	36.0	27.0
Gangtok	36	23.8	15.2	Pune	—	43.2	26.1
Goa	—	36.0	28.0	Raipur	—	43.7	29.6
Guwahati	—	36.1	22.1	Ranchi	—	38.4	22.0
Hubballi	—	37.0	24.0	Shillong	—	25.5	16.4
Hyderabad	—	39.1	27.7	Shimla	—	29.4	18.0
Imphal	—	31.0	25.3	Srinagar	—	21.9	9.0
Jaipur	—	41.2	24.2	Thiruvananthapuram	2	33.6	26.5
Kochi	26	32.6	25.0	Tiruchi	—	39.7	28.0
Kohima	—	28.0	20.3	Vijayawada	—	39.8	27.2
Kolkata	—	37.2	28.6	Visakhapatnam	—	34.0	28.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.70	..56	18	... 244	...189	
Bengaluru	..—	..17	37	... 142	...158	
Chennai	.13	..19	33	 55	53	
Delhi	.44	139	51	... 246	...327	
Hyderabad	...6	..39	37	... 101	74	
Kolkata	...5	..16	21	 91	93	
Lucknow	.13	..58	69	... 208	...176	
Mumbai	...2	..39	12	 87	...114	
Pune	...8	..42	66	... 156	...122	
Visakhapatnam	...9	..34	23	 52	...111	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Agartala, Tripura recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 339 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 27

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

INBRIEF

A.P. entering era of AI-backed governance, says Naidu

Setting the tone for Andhra Pradesh's digital future, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Thursday said the State is entering a new era of governance powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI) – one that prioritises smart systems, human-centric solutions, and real-time delivery of services. The Chief Minister was addressing a workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies for Government Digital Transformation at the Secretariat. Underscoring that systems must empower governance, not restrict it, Mr. Naidu said: "We have the best brains in the country, especially in the IAS. But our systems make them inefficient. We must now rewrite old, archaic laws and embrace smart, digital systems."

Veena diverted CMRL funds to repay her firm's loan: SFIO

Chargesheet claims Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's daughter colluded with Sasidharan Kartha, chairman and managing director of Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd., to misappropriate funds

K S Sudhi
KOCHI

T. Veena, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's daughter, diverted the funds she received from Cochin Minerals and Rutile Limited (CMRL) to settle the debt of her firm Exalogic Solutions Private Limited with Empower India Capital Investments Private Limited (EICIPL), a company run by Sasidharan Kartha, managing director of CMRL, and caused a financial loss to CMRL, a publicly held company, according to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).

T. Veena

The SFIO's final complaint filed before a Special Court in Kochi early this month noted that the diversion of funds "effectively transferred a ₹50 lakh liability from the EICIPL to CMRL, causing financial loss to CMRL."

The report pointed out that EICIPL had extended Exalogic a bank loan of ₹25 lakh on August 5, 2015. The payment was transferred to the account of Exalogic on August 6, 2015. The repayment was scheduled to begin on August 1, 2016 in 24 instalments with an interest rate of 12%.

"However, Exalogic did not make any repayment as on 28/8/2016. Despite this, EICIPL sanctioned another loan of ₹25 lakh to Exalogic, which was disbursed on 29/8/2016. It was after the second loan that Exalogic repaid ₹4 lakh to EICIPL on 13/11/2016," the SFIO reported.

The agency had reported that CMRL had made a monthly payment of ₹5 lakh to Ms. Veena and ₹3 lakh to her firm, Exalogic, as retainer for IT and marketing consultancy services. "The bank records indicated that funds paid by CMRL to Exalogic were redirected to cover Exalogic's debt with EICIPL," according to the complaint.

The "investigations uncovered the collusion between T. Veena and Sasidharan Kartha to misappropriate funds," the SFIO alleged.

Mr. Kartha is the first accused and Ms. Veena the 11th accused in the case booked under the Companies Act.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ನೀಸ&ಒಚ(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ, ವಾಏನೀಸ ಆವರಣ, ಯಾದವಗಿರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾಇಂ/ನೀಸ&ಒಚ(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ)/ಟಿಎನ್–02/46/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.04.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ / ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ KTPP ನಿಯಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ (ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್/ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1.	Kw-1 & Kw-2	08 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	94.11	29.04.2025	15.05.2025	16.05.2025
2.	Kw-4 & SERVICE TENDER	02 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು	121.42	29.04.2025	15.05.2025	16.05.2025
3.	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	01 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	-	29.04.2025	15.05.2025	16.05.2025
4.	GOODS TENDER	01 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	39.04	29.04.2025	15.05.2025	16.05.2025
5.	Kw-2	01 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	33.03	25.04.2025	02.05.2025	03.05.2025

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ/ಬದಲಾವಣೆ/ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ನೀಸ&ಒಚ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ವಿಭಾಗ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/96/25-26

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್,ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ

NO:ZPB/ADMIN-1/55/2024-25 DATE: 23.04.2025

INFORMATION

Procurement details: PROVIDING MAN POWER OUT SOURCE SERVICES TO VACENT POST IN ZP AND TPs OF BALLARI, AND ZP LINE DEPARTMENTS, BALLARI. **Tender No:** ZPB/ADMIN01/55/2024-25. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.218.60 laksh. **Last date and time for receipt of tenders:** 09.05.2025 @:05.00 PM. **More information visite e-procurement official website Address:** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/Deputy Secretary (Admin) and Tender Inviting Authority Zilla Panchayath, Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/59/KSMCA/2025-26

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL – TIPTUR
TUMKUR DIST.

No: CMC/Tip/Tech/CR/147/2025-26 Dated:19.04.2025.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

As per KTTP Act 1999-2000 Rule 2000, Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Tiptur was invited Tender for Works under grants from eligible contractors who was registered in Public Works Department Tenderer can participate Tender for the following works in KPPP Portal website **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) Note: For more Information contact office during working hours.**

KPPP Portal					
Sl. no	WORK INDENT	Tender cost (Rs. Lakhs)	EMD Rs	Last Date of Tender	Date for Opening Tender
1	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT38984	71,50,000/-	1,43,000/-	25.04.2025	26.04.2025

Sd/- Municipal Commissioner
CMC Tiptur

DIPR/TUM/RO-09/25-26/Oysters

ಉನಸ:ಬಿ2:ಸಿಆರ್:2025–26 ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಉಡುಪಿ,

ಟೆಂಡರು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.04.2025

2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ Standard Bid Document K.W -3 ರ ನಿಯಮ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು (ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿರುವಂತೆ) e-procurement ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದವರಿಂದ ಮತ್ತು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಿಂದ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು

1) ತುಂಬಿದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.05.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
2) ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.05.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.01 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
3) ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಬಿಡ್ಡುದಾರರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ
1	1 ಇಂದಿರಾನಗರ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣನಗರ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ ಅಗಲೀಕರಣ, ಕರಂಬಳ್ಳಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ವಿ.ಎಂ ನಗರ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೂಡುಪೆರಂಪಳ್ಳಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಅರುಣ ಫಾರ್ಮ್ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಹಿಂದುಗಡೆ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೂಡುಪೆರಂಪಳ್ಳಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ವಾಲ್ಟರ್ ಡಿಸೋಜ ಮನೆಯಿಂದ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಗೋಪಾಲಪುರ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಎಲ್.ವಿ.ಟಿ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಕೆ.ಇ.ಬಿ ಗೋಪಾಲಕೃಷ್ಣ ರವರ ಮನೆ ಮುಂಭಾಗ ರಸ್ತೆ, ನಯಂಪಳ್ಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಮಾಂಡವಿ ಅಪಾರ್ಟ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಹತ್ತಿರದ ರಸ್ತೆ ಎಲ್.ವಿ.ಟಿ ಶಾಲೆ ಬಳಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಪದ್ಮನಾಭ ಭಟ್ ರವರ ಮನೆ ಮುಂಭಾಗ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಚಿಟ್ಪಾಡಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಉಡುಪ ಕಂಪೌಂಡ್ನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ ಮತ್ತು 1ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆಯನ್ನು 4 ಮೀಟರ್ ವರೆಗೆ, ಮೂಡುಪೆಂಪಳ್ಳಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಶಾಂಭವಿ ಸಾವರಿಯನ್ ಹತ್ತಿರ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಗೋಪಾಲಪುರ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ವಾಸುಕಿನಗರ ರಸ್ತೆ ಮರುಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT39175 **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: 9670000.00, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ.:145050.00, 2 ತಿಂಗಳು (ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)**
2	2 ಬೈಲೂರು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಗೋಕುಲದಾಸ್ ಕಂಪೌಂಡ್ ಪಕ್ಕದ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಗಲೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಅಜ್ಜರಕಾಡು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಜಗನ್ನಾಥ ನಾಯಕ್ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಗಲೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ ಹಾಗೂ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಒಂದು ಬದಿ ಕಾಂಕ್ರಿಟ್ ಚರಂಡಿ ರಚನೆ. ಅಂಬಲಪಾಡಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಸಿ.ಪಿ.ಸಿ ಲೇಔಟ್ (ಸತ್ಯಸಾಯಿ ಮಾರ್ಗ) ರಸ್ತೆ & ಮಹಾಕಾಳಿ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಸಹಾರ ಫ್ಲಾಟ್ ಹಿಂಬದಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಒಳಕಾಡು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಸಂತೋಷ್ ಪೂಜಾರಿ ಮನೆಯ ಹಿಂದುಗಡೆ ತೋಡಿಗೆ ಕಾಂಕ್ರೀಟ್ ಕಾಲುಸಂಕ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ, ಕಸ್ತೂರ್ಬಾನಗರ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಕಿಟ್ಟಿನಗರ 2ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆಯ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ ನಾಗಬನಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗುವ ದಾರಿ, ಕಸ್ತೂರ್ಬಾನಗರ ಬುಡ್ನಾರು ಕಲ್ಲುಡ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂಬಲಪಾಡಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಬೀಡು ಮಾರ್ಗ 3ನೇ & 4ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ ಮರುಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ, DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK _INDENT39173 **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: 9900000.00, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ.:148500.00, 2 ತಿಂಗಳು (ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)**
3	ಈಶ್ವರನಗರ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ 11ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆಯ ನಾರಾಯಣ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿಗಾರ್ ಮನೆಗೆ ಹೋಗುವ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಈಶ್ವರನಗರ 13ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಗುಂಡಿಬೈಲು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ನಾನ್ ಹುಡ್ಕೊ ಭುದಗಿ ಕಾಂಪ್ಲೆಕ್ಸ್‌ನ ಹತ್ತಿರ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಗುಂಡಿಬೈಲು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ವ್ಯಾಯಾಮ ಶಾಲೆಯ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಗುಂಡಿಬೈಲು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ದೊಡ್ಡಣಗುಡ್ಡೆ 2ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಗುಂಡಿಬೈಲು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಬಳಿಗಾರಬೆಟ್ಟು ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಪರ್ಕಳ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಪ್ರಾ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಆಯ್ದ ಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ಮರುಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ನಗರದ ರಸ್ತೆ ಕುಸಿದ ಭಾಗ ತಡೆಗೋಡೆ (ರಾಮ ದೇವಾಡಿಗ ಮನೆಯ ಹತ್ತಿರ), ಸೆಟ್ಟಿಬೆಟ್ಟು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಪ್ರಸಾದ್ ಕಾಲನಿ ಆಯ್ದ ಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಚರಂಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ. ಸೆಟ್ಟಿಬೆಟ್ಟು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಪೇರ್ಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ, ಸೆಟ್ಟಿಬೆಟ್ಟು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಗೋಳಿಕಟ್ಟೆ ಕಿರು ಸೇತುವೆಯ ಹತ್ತಿರ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ. DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT39176 . **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: 9795000.00, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ.:146925.00, 2 ತಿಂಗಳು (ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)**
4	ಈಶ್ವರನಗರ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ 4ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಡಾ। ರಾಜೇಶ್ ಭಕ್ತ ಮನೆಗೆ ಹೋಗುವಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ರಸ್ತೆ ರಚಿಸಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮಣಿಪಾಲ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಎ.ಎಲ್.ಎನ್ ಲೇಔಟ್ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆಯಿಂದ ಅನುಗ್ರಹ ಅಪಾರ್ಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ರಸ್ತೆಯಿಂದ ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಪ್ಲಾಟ್ಸರೆಗೆ, ಮಣಿಪಾಲ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಅವಂತಿ ಕಾರ್ನರ್ ಎಲ್.ಐ.ಜಿ । ಮನೆಯಿಂದ ಕೋಟಿಗೆದ್ದೆ ಸುಬ್ಬಣ್ಣಯ್ಯನವರ ಮನೆಯ ತನಕ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮಣಿಪಾಲ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಹುಡ್ಕೊ ಕಾಲೊನಿಯ ಶ್ರೀ ದಯಾನಂದ ನಾಯಕರ ಮನೆಯಿಂದ ಹುಡ್ಕೊ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಹುಡ್ಕೊ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಅಗಲೀಕರಣವಾಗಿ, ಮಣಿಪಾಲ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಹುಡ್ಕೊ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನದಿಂದ ಎಮ್.ಐ.ಜಿ ಪಿ.ಜಿ ಪಂಡಿತ್ ರವರ ಮನೆಯ ತನಕ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಕಕ್ಕುಂಜೆ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಸಂದೀಪ್ ಮನೆ ಹತ್ತಿರ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೈಲೂರು ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಭಾಗ್ಯಮಂದಿರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ ಅಗಲೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಚಿಟ್ಪಾಡಿ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ಭಾಗ್ಯಮಂದಿರ 2ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದುವರಿದ ಭಾಗದ ರಸ್ತೆ ಕಾಂಕ್ರೀಟೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಕಕ್ಕುಂಜೆ ವಾರ್ಡಿನ ದೇವಿನಗರ ರಸ್ತೆ ಮರು ಡಾಮರೀಕರಣ. DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT39180 **ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: 9700000.00, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ.:145500, 2 ತಿಂಗಳು (ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)**

ಸಹಿ/–ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಉಡುಪಿ ನಗರಸಭೆ ಸಹಿ/–ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು ಉಡುಪಿ ನಗರಸಭೆ

Government of Karnataka - Karnataka Forest Department

Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Hosanagara Forest Division, Hosanagara.

District: Shivamogga. e-Mail ID: acfhnr@gmail.com

No: ACF/HNR/DDF-MONSOON/CR-1/2025-26

Date:22.04.2025

e-Tender Notice (Short Term e-Tender Notice Through e-Procurement Portal)

Unitwar Tenders are invited through e-Procurement Portal in two cover system from interested forest contractors having minimum of 05 (five) years experience for implementing 13 formation of monsoon plantations works of Approx. Amount Rs. 139.65 lakhs under DDF Scheme in the limits of various forest zones of Sagar Division for the year 2025-26. Last date for submission of Tender is fixed as: 29.04.2025 up to 4.35 PM. Complete details of works and places are explained in the e-Procurement Portal. For further information this office can be contacted and details regarding the Tender can be obtained from the official website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests, Hosanagara Sub Division, Hosanagara.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/120/04/107

Government of Karnataka

Department of Mines & Geology, Office of the Senior Geologist, Khanija Bhavana, Chikkamaglauru-577102

Email: sgchikmagalur@gmail.com ph: 08262-295798

No: SGCKM/DMG/Iron Ore action-25-26 Date:24-04-2025

e-AUCTION PUBLICATION

Invites the e-applications for auction of Iron Ore at Sy. No.53/P2,54/1 &55 of Manchetavaru,Lingadahalli,Hobali, Tarikere Tq. Interested Persons/Companies/ firm/ agencies can participate by registering themselves.

Auction No: MSTC/BLR/Office of the Director, DMG/1,2,3,4/ Bangalore/2025- 26/6217, 6219, 6220, 6221 . Auction documents and annexure can be downloaded from the e-auction website https://www.mstcecommerce.com. Last date for uploading the Annexure and submission of e-application is 06-05-2025. Live bidding is scheduled on 08-05-2025. Application and Bids shall be submitted through MSTC platform only. For information about auction/registration contact MSTC office 080-22260054/ 22266417/22379145. Email: blropn7@mstcindia.in/ tejasv@mstcindia.co.in, Mobil No. 9980147110

Sd/-Senior Geologist/e-Auction, Inviting Authority Department of Mines & Geology, Chikkamagaluru

DIPR/ckm/No.08/ksmca/24-25/136

KALYANA KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
CENTRAL OFFICE, SARIGE SADAN MAIN ROAD, KALABURGI-585102
Mechanical Engineering Department

:: NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER ::

Tender NO: T-72 Call_3 Dated: 23/04/2025
(KPP Portal Ref No KKRTC/2024-25/IND0098/CALL-3)
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Tender is invited through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for "Supply of various types fully built buses" for Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation **(KKRTC).**

The details can be viewed in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Last Date for the submission of bids through this portal is **10/05/2025** till **13.00 Hours.** The approximate value of the Tender is **Rs. 35.20 Crores.**

In case any information is required from KKRTC, please mail to **cme.kkrtc@gmail.com** (contact: **7760992001**)

Sd/- Chief Mechanical Engineer (Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/Kalaburagi/58/KSMC&A/2025-26

Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur
(Govt. Autonomous Institution)
Hydrabad Road, Raichur -584102 Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89
Web. www. rims-raichur.com Email info@rims-raichur.com

No. RIMS/SUP/TEND/2025-26/ Dated: 21.04.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Providing Services of Staff Nurse, Data Entry Operators, Paramedical & Other Staff for RIMS & RGSSH, AND Providing Outsource & Safai Karmachari to RIMS Teaching Hospital & Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital, Raichur under two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

Sl. No	Tender details	Tender Number	Approx.cost (in Lakhs)
1	Providing Services of Staff Nurse, Data Entry Operators, Para Medical & Other Staff for RIMS & RGSSH, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/SER/ 01/2025-26 DME/2025-26/SE0453	420.00
2	Providing Outsource and Safai Karmachari Service to RIMS & RGSSH, Raichur	RIMS/SUP/TEND/SER/ 02/2025-26 DME/2025-26/SE0454	845.00

1) Tender document may be download from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 22.04.2025 2) Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 21.05.2025 upto 5.00 PM 3) Technical bid will be opened on 23.05.2025 at 11.30 AM

Further information may be obtained from above office and from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Director
Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences Raichur

DIP/RCR/51/KSMC&A/51/2025-26

C. Muthamizhchelvan, Vice-Chancellor, SRMIST, speaking at the inaugural event on Thursday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

'Hope to train 1,000 faculty members in AI by December'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Speaking at the inaugural of *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 in Chennai on Thursday, C. Muthamizhchelvan, Vice-Chancellor (V-C), SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), called on academia, industry, start-up ventures, and investors to come together to create a good ecosystem for start-ups.

The institute focuses on five areas: AI for education; need-based research; fostering entrepreneurship and innovation through mentorship; training programme for faculty; and encouraging students to visit villages and find problems they need solutions for. The institute plans to train 1,000 faculty on AI by December 2025, and this will lead to a lot of changes, he said.

"Around 600 faculty have been trained and support students in their entrepreneurial efforts," the V-C said. The institute had 475 patents and about 10% of them were at the technology readiness level (TRL) 6.

Industry inputs

"Unless we get inputs from the industry, we will not be able to proceed," he said, and for this purpose, the institute had started an industrial research and innovation summit to showcase patents to experts. This has helped some patents to move to the next level of tech transfer and some others to the level of product development. "Present-day students are not going to rural areas. We insist that students go to villages and identify challenges and come up with tangible solutions," he said.

To encourage such students, open elective courses with credits are offered. "These help our students to think differently and encourage them to become entrepreneurs," the V-C said.

So far, the institute had incubated 45 companies, of which 11 had graduated from the campus and were doing well. The institute's pre-incubation centre was open to all, he added.

List of sponsors

The event is presented by SRM Institute of Science and Technology, co-presented by StartupTN and in association with Sify Technologies. Retail GPT is the phygital commerce partner. Tally is the technology partner. Confederation of Indian Industry is the strategic partner. ITC Mangaldeep is the fragrance partner, and *Puthiya Thalaimurai* is the TV partner

Policy framework that fosters inclusivity in start-ups is need of the hour, say panellists

At *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25, they discuss the power of inclusive technology, role of academic institutions in fostering such technology, and how inclusion must be unbiased. They further highlight need for diversification in start-ups, including research-based products

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Even as Tamil Nadu is heading towards a vibrant and tech-led start-up ecosystem, there is a need for a policy framework that fosters inclusivity in start-ups, said panellists at a session on 'Building a Diverse Startup Ecosystem: Inclusion and Gender Equality' held in Chennai on Thursday.

They discussed the power of inclusive technology, role of academic institutions in fostering the same, and how inclusion must be unbiased. Speaking on the challenges faced by persons with physical disabilities and the role of innovations through assistive technology in empowering them, Prateek Madhav, co-founder and CEO, AssisTech Foundation, said the country was now growing into one of the best assistive technology hubs in the world.

From right, Prateek Madhav, co-founder and CEO, AssisTech Foundation, Jyotirmayee Dash, managing director, TeraLumen Solutions Private Limited, and Subalalitha C.N., professor, Department of Computing Technologies, SRMIST, at the panel discussion on Thursday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

"The number of start-ups has grown from a mere 10 or 15 to a vibrant ecosystem of 500 start-ups, which have changed lives and enabled persons with physical disabilities to gain better accessibility, independence, and social inclusion. Several of them were from Tamil Nadu," he said.

Highlighting technological innovation as the reason behind societal transformation and the growth of the start-up ecosystem, he said it was essential to include assistive technology in the policy framework.

Noting that persons with disabilities cannot be left behind in the attempt to build an inclusive ecosystem, Mr. Madhav said they contributed 5% to 7% to the country's Gross Domestic Product. Investment, technological innovations, and research in inclusive start-ups would help in improving the economic impact of including persons with physical disabilities, he added.

Commercialising ideas

Subalalitha C.N., professor, Department of Computing Technologies, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), discussed the role of academia in nurturing start-up and entrepreneurial mindset among students and encouraging faculty start-ups.

Besides hackathons and project-based courses, students are encouraged to commercialise their ideas through industry collaborations. Moreover, faculty start-ups help them align with their research domains and gain exposure to market requirements. This is reflected in the quality of their teaching.

Jyotirmayee Dash, managing director, TeraLumen Solutions Private Limited, elaborated on her journey of building a start-up and the terahertz technology.

Underlining the need for diversification in start-ups, including research-based products and manufacturing, she said consistency and dedication were important to build a company based on deep tech. Collaborations, including those with business experts and various stakeholders, would help balance research and business ventures, she said.

The session was moderated by Ramya Kannan, Chief of Bureau, Tamil Nadu, *The Hindu*.

'Students build, iterate, and refine an idea before it is ready for the market'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

An idea is not just an idea; students build on it, iterate, learn, and build on it again, said Ananth Kumar, associate director of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), in Chennai on Thursday.

Ananth Kumar

Speaking during a session, 'Fireside Chat: Nurturing Startups from Campus to the Global Scale - Building Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Universities', he said: "This sort of cycle helps students grow, as the idea goes through multiple iterations and, at some point, becomes ready for the market." He was in conversation with R. Sujatha, Deputy Editor, *The Hindu*.

Recalling the inception of incubator cells, he said he and his colleagues had visited many incubation cells across the country. "We then worked on our strengths, as that is the only way to build an active and growing incubator. The strength of SRM is its diversity in terms of programmes, research, and development, as well as the people, who are our key strength," he added.

Narrating an incident about developing a motor for an e-bike, Dr. Ananth Kumar said: "It takes over four years to nurture a deep-tech product, bring it to market, and turn it into an investable company. If the founders have persistence, passion, and the resilience to stay the course, they will succeed. We want to focus on such start-ups."

Stating that they are focusing on setting up a Centre of Excellence for Rural Technology, he said it would come up on the new campus, as it is connected to 100 villages. "We want to focus on making it an innovation hub on rural technology and agri technology," he added.

Pointing out the differences between the early days of Silicon Valley and the start-up ecosystem in India, Dr. Ananth Kumar said there was access to risk capital, or patient capital, where investors were willing to wait.

"So, the best innovators went there and pitched ideas. They received the capital and delivered. Statistics show that over 30% of Silicon Valley start-ups have Indian founders. Now, in India, we have created a lot of resources for risk capital – from government grants to angel investors. The problem is not in finding funding, but in finding the right problem," he added.

Sivarajah Ramanathan, Mission Director and Chief Executive Officer, StartupTN, speaking at the session on Thursday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

State wants to take innovation to villages, says StartupTN CEO

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN) will be launching a scheme called *Gramam Thorum Puthozhil* (Establishing Start-ups in Villages) this year, focusing on inclusive entrepreneurship, rural innovation, and sustainable economic growth.

"We want to take the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship to villages," Sivarajah Ramanathan, Mission Director and Chief Executive Officer, StartupTN, said in a fireside chat on "Harnessing Innovation: Tamil Nadu's Role in the Global Startup Ecosystem." The session was moderated by Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, *The Hindu*.

Highlighting the various initiatives of StartupTN, Mr. Ramanathan said: "Our primary mandate is to create a good ecosystem for start-up companies to start and grow in the State. We are creating funding schemes; we are working with Venture Capitalists to connect with start-ups. Our policy focuses on three major inclusive aspects – gender inclusivity, caste inclusivity, and geographical inclusivity. We have over 40 different schemes," he added.

Throwing statistics on how the start-up ecosystem has grown over the last three years, Mr. Ramanathan said Tamil Nadu currently had over 10,700 start-ups.

When the moderator asked him about the yardstick used to define start-ups, he said: "In 2023, the Government of Tamil Nadu introduced a policy that slightly modified the Government of India's definition of a start-up. While the Centre defines a start-up as being less than 10 years old with a turnover of less than ₹100 crore, Tamil Nadu's policy revised the turnover threshold to ₹50 crore."

"Additionally, to support social impact, Tamil Nadu's definition expands beyond new innovations. For example, while e-commerce may no longer be considered an innovation, if a marginalised community – such as a tribal one – is using an online platform to sell their products, it qualifies as a start-up to us," Mr. Ramanathan added.

'Mindset shift crucial to building global brands from small towns'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Mindset shift is the need of the hour to build global brands from small towns. This was one of the key deliberations at a session organised as part of *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 in the city on Thursday.

The summit was hosted by *The Hindu* along with SRM Institute of Science and Technology and co-presented by StartupTN in association with Sify Technologies.

Chandu Nair, start-up advisor, Akhila Rajeshwar, executive director, TiE, Chennai, and Sivakumar Palanisamy, vice-president, StartupTN during the panel discussion on Thursday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Tracing The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE)-Chennai's journey in inspiring, mentoring and networking entrepreneurs, its executive director, Akhila Rajeshwar, said the organisation was now present in 37 districts across the State. She was addressing the session on 'Nurturing Entrepreneurship in south Tamil Nadu: Opportunities and Challenges.'

TiE had now turned its focus from start-ups to micro, small and medium enterprises and holds networking events in vernacular language to be more accessible to entrepreneurs in the State, she said. Retention of talent, digital divide and lack of resources were some of the challenges faced by entrepreneurs in south Tamil Nadu.

Panellists also spoke on the self-imposed constraints among the entrepreneurs in the southern districts which were restricting them from scaling up their business.

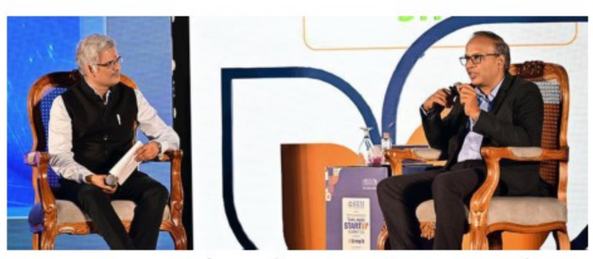
On the funding pattern and investors, Chandu Nair, start-up advisor and member, executive board, The Chennai Angels, said Tamil Nadu was yet to develop a robust ecosystem of entrepreneurs and enterprises interested in funding start-ups through efforts like equity investment.

Regulations by various government authorities were another deterrent for aspiring entrepreneurs. Nearly 65% of the regulatory reforms fall within the purview of the State. Besides revamping education for research, entrepreneurs must draw examples from other countries like Israel and Vietnam that have built thriving business ecosystem.

Describing south Tamil Nadu as trade zone, Sivakumar Palanisamy, vice-president, StartupTN, said many entrepreneurs were reluctant partially due to fear of failures and called for a change of mindset. StartupTN, with regional hubs in various places, had learnt that southern districts did not imitate entrepreneurship in urbanscape but created their own identity and promoted their culture and traditions through their ventures, he added.

A framework was being built in south Tamil Nadu, taking into account affordability, accessibility and availability. It was time to prepare the workforce for AI driven future and create new streams of business models, Mr. Palanisamy said. Panellists underlined the need to prepare entrepreneurs to experiment and explore their potential to build international brands. Sangeetha Kandavel, Senior Assistant Editor, *The Hindu*, moderated the session.

Cybersecurity should be built into the design in a start-up firm: Sify Digital Services CEO



C.R. Srinivasan, CEO, Sify Digital Services, in conversation with Suresh Vijayaraghavan, Chief Technology Officer, The Hindu Group, at the session on Thursday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

'Security should be there by design' is a mantra that every cybersecurity start-up should follow, said C.R. Srinivasan, chief executive officer (CEO), Sify Digital Services, in Chennai on Thursday. He was in a conversation with Suresh Vijayaraghavan, Chief Technology Officer, The Hindu Group, on 'Cybersecurity in the Startup World: Why Stakeholders Can't Afford to Ignore It'.

Speaking on the mistakes done by start-ups in the initial stages, he said: "Most of the time they want any product to hit the market as soon as possible as they don't want to miss the opportunity for the product and want to be ahead of the competitor. They genuinely don't know if it is secure and lastly, 'we'll see when it happens' attitude. However, it becomes a significant roadblock at some point if they don't think about cybersecurity." He said cybersecurity spending is an integral part of the product build. "The start-up is financially constrained but everybody starts out that way. If you compromise on cybersecurity, the cost of non conformance to security is very high. Its not just financial loss but also reputational loss. It is something they need to balance. They should ensure that they do what is minimally required."

Stressing that the consumer should also be aware of the importance of security, Mr. Srinivasan said the start-ups needed to understand that their reputation was at stake and it could not be built midway on the journey. "It has to be built from day one," he said.

"Not all founding teams come with technology exposure. Its important for founders to present themselves in a way that funding firms understand that they care about cybersecurity. The firm that's funding should also ask for that," he added.

Tamil Nadu is currently home to over 10,800 start-ups, says T.M. Anbarasan

Delivering the valedictory address at *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25, he says a regional innovation centre will come up in Thoothukudi, and innovation centres have already been set up in several districts; he also says govt. is providing entrepreneurship training to students in the State

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Until March 2021, only 2,032 start-ups were registered in Tamil Nadu, and now, this number has increased to over 10,800 and nearly 50% of these are founded by women, Tamil Nadu's Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) T.M. Anbarasan said.

Delivering the valedictory address at *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25, the Minister said a regional innovation centre had been planned in Thoothukudi in this fiscal. "In the last four years, regional innovation centres have been established in Erode, Tirunelveli, Hosur, Salem, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, and Coimbatore."

Minister T.M. Anbarasan felicitating N. Ram, Director, THG Publishing Private Limited, in the presence of L.V. Navaneeth, the group's CEO, at the valedictory event of *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 on Thursday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Mr. Anbarasan shared details of various projects that were executed in the last four years. "Around 31,11,000 students studying in schools and colleges have been provided with entrepreneurship and innovation training. Over 205 start-ups have benefited under the TANSEED scheme (including 36 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/STs) start-ups). The government has given a total of ₹69.99 crore in funding," he said.

"Launch pad programmes are being conducted to introduce new businesses. 'Pre Incubation Centres' have been set up in educational institutions across cities in Tamil Nadu," he added.

The Minister said that at the Global Investors Meet, which was held in January last year, around 5,068 memoranda of understanding were signed in the MSMEs sector. These agreements are expected to generate employment for 91,785 people. "And of these, around 2,360 companies have already been launched, entailing investments of ₹25,097 crore. Work is in progress to launch the remaining companies soon," he added. Mr. Anbarasan also mentioned how 59,584 entrepreneurs were created. This includes 21,281 are women, 9,224 are from SC/STs, 2,497 are from minority communities and 717 are disabled individuals. "These initiatives have promoted entrepreneurship across all sections of society, ensuring equality and social justice, as envisioned by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin," he said.

Suresh Balakrishna, Chief Revenue Officer, The Hindu Group (THG), felicitated the Minister in the presence of L.V. Navaneeth, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), THG Publishing Private Limited, and Sivarajah Ramanathan, Mission Director and CEO, StartupTN.

Sadique Ahmed, CEO, Pathfinder, speaking at the fireside chat at the summit on Thursday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Retail has to operate both physically and digitally: expert

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

"Retail has evolved over the years and the main driver is the consumer," said Sadique Ahmed, CEO, Pathfinder, at *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 that was organised by *The Hindu* along with SRM Institute of Science and Technology, and co-presented by StartupTN in association with Sify Technologies.

In a conversation with John Xavier, Editor-Technology, *The Hindu*, on the topic 'Democratising Retail - How AI is empowering business of all sizes', Mr. Ahmed said that in retail, those who adapted and changed succeeded, while traditional retailers were struggling. "The reason for suffering is the gap has widened now... unless something miraculously comes to their rescue... they would perish," he said referring to the technological advancements happening in this particular sector.

He explained how technology had improved and how one knew what the consumer would be buying during the weekend.

Evolution and adoption of technology

He also pointed out that technology had evolved but the adoption was not there. "This is purely because the availability of tech is limited or cost of embracing it is high and also there is a herd mentality like 'let somebody do it and then I'll follow'," he added.

Noting that quick commerce had always been around, Mr. Ahmed said that neighbourhood stores were like quick commerce catering to neighbourhood needs and delivery at homes. "But they lost because they did not keep up the pace. The new platforms understood that sitting in one place they can know what consumers want," he said.

Hybrid model

Mr. Ahmed added that most online platforms were also having a physical store now. "Why...because experiential buying will never die. Phygital is the solution – Retail has to be there physically and digitally," he said. He also touched upon how consumers were expecting rewards on their spends and how brands were chasing this trend.

Delving into disruptive powers of AI and digitalisation, and the need to upskill workforce to bring in change

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Artificial intelligence (AI) can be leveraged in industries, colleges, or schools. Individuals can learn AI, apply it in their jobs and upskill themselves to find a next job, said Ashwin Desikan, co-founder and CTO, Atsuya Technologies, at *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 in Chennai on Thursday.

Speaking about how AI and digitalisation will bring in disruption, he said, "Look at how we waste resources today. We believe that labour is cheap. It is not. Rather, we could spend that time in cross skilling or upskilling them and that would bring in the change. Today, the power of AI is such that you can have full conversations with it." He was speaking in a panel discussion on 'Digital Transformation: Startup as a Catalyst for Change', moderated by Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, *The Hindu*. Talking about the challenges that they faced, Mr. Desikan drew the example of emergency management system of the Greater Chennai Corporation and said, "In the initial stages, it used to be the cloud when we approached customers as we are a cloud-only platform. The whole perception that cloud is bad in many cases or not very secure sometimes puts fundamental blocks in the company's mind. So winning trust over the customer with what they are observing was key."

Ashwin Desikan, co-founder and CTO, Atsuya Technologies; Tamizh Inian, founder and CEO, Frigate Engineering Services Private Limited, and Phunith Kumar V., CPO and co-founder, Raptee HV, during the session on Thursday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Feedback loop

Highlighting the need for a feedback loop, Tamizh Inian, founder, CEO, Frigate Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd., said: "I believe in taking Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises global. You have to become a global vendor so that their margins can rise. If they do operation efficiency using digital there would be a lot of benefit for them. Even if you implement any policy, we also need to be able to get feedback. There has to be a feedback loop from the MSMEs. There has to be a structured format of policy for every sector based on their revenue. That's how all the players would benefit." Pointing to the range anxiety that people might feel when they own an electric vehicle as one of the challenges in the sector, Phunith Kumar V., CPO, co-founder Raptee HV, said: "The best way to solve it is by having better charging infrastructure or better energy density technology than making a vehicle run longer on a single charge. Putting on bigger battery pads is not going to solve it. These are the things we need to work on."

'Healthcare industry is in need of technology intervention at all levels'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Healthcare industry requires technology intervention at all levels – from patient care to maintaining hospital records and even a hospital's functioning. The opportunities are many for the passionate. Often a personal setback or requirement triggers innovation and a start-up is born, said panellists at a session on 'Healthtech Innovations: Revolutionising Healthcare in Tamil Nadu' on Thursday.

The event was presented by *The Hindu* and SRM Institute of Science and Technology and co-presented by StartupTN in association with Sify Technologies.

Neurosurgeon K. Ganapathy, who moderated the session, recalled his days as a practising clinician, when advanced technology was non-existent. In his generation, students learned by practising on patients but today's medical students could learn through simulation laboratories.

In fact, the National Medical Commission had mandated simulation laboratories, said Adith Chinnaswami, a laparoscopic surgeon and co-founder of MediSim VR. Boopesh Pugazhendi, consultant neurosurgeon at Naruvi Hospital, Vellore, said the hospital had gone paperless, a concept that patients and hospital staff equally found difficult to grasp. According to him, the challenge was training the hospital staff.

Panellists at the 'Healthtech Innovations: Revolutionising Healthcare in Tamil Nadu' session held on Thursday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Lallu Joseph, quality manager and associate general superintendent at Christian Medical College, Vellore, recalled a personal experience to explain how healthcare innovations happen.

"Technology is transforming healthcare delivery. There are kids who are revolutionising healthcare," she said, explaining how their passion for tracking race cars helped a couple of youngsters come up with contactless remote monitoring of vital parameters for their uncle who was being treated at the hospital.

Hospitals made it a practice now to install sensors under patients' beds to monitor them. Use of apps to monitor workforce had improved patient satisfaction, she said.

Dr. Boopesh said clinical history taking in hospitals had undergone a transformation with the introduction of technology. The State government used technology to monitor the outbreak of diseases such as dengue and pneumonia. The high penetration of smartphones had helped the State monitor non-communicable diseases in the population, he added.

"It is more reverse engineering," said Dr. Lallu about the digital transformation in healthcare. She urged youngsters to visit hospitals and see if their idea could solve a problem.

Dr. Ganapathy agreed that any innovator who showed evidence that technology could transform a service in the healthcare sector would receive support to develop their product.

Dr. Adith said now there were 250 students per MBBS class and with clinical material in short supply, virtual reality labs were an option to ensure that a healthcare professional could have a certifiable level of competency before starting to treat patients.

Innovators could rope in doctors or hospitals to have their innovation tested. Their feedback would not only help fine-tune the product but also convince a funding agency to offer financial support, Dr. Lallu said.

Dr. Adith said simulation laboratories were welcome in medical colleges. "There was never any modality (to find out) whether a student knows how to handle an emergency. Now, we have one," he said.

Experts stress need for early exposure to entrepreneurial experiences in schools

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Instilling entrepreneurial education at the school level is key to shaping the future. Educational institutions have a pivotal role in providing early exposure to creative thinking among students, said experts in a session organised at *The Hindu* Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 held in Chennai on Thursday.

The summit was organised by *The Hindu* along with SRM Institute of Science and Technology, and co-presented by StartupTN in association with Sify Technologies.

Addressing the session on 'Startup Success Begins in the Classroom: The Power of Education in Innovation', Krishnan Balasubramanian, Institute professor, IIT-Madras, spoke about his experiences in mentoring start-ups. The focus was to enable mindset change among faculty and students to bring deep tech solutions from lab to market.

Noting that expectations about educational institutions had evolved from teaching, research to metrics of patents and their translational effect, he said building start-up ecosystems was one of the strong translational effects. Every institution must commit itself to creating an entrepreneurial ecosystem and take learning beyond the classrooms. Students have to look at technological learning and also raise funds for their ventures.

From left, Chandran Krishnan, MD and CEO, Campus Angels Network; Revathi Venkatraman, professor and chairperson, School of Computing, SRMIST; Shaivee Malik, co-founder and COO, Yotuh Energy; Sudharshan Varatharajan, co-founder and CEO, Bversity; and Krishnan Balasubramanian, professor, IIT-Madras, at the session on Thursday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

He said students need to be on board early to cultivate innovation skills. The concept must spread to other streams such as agricultural institutions apart from engineering colleges.

'Discuss failed attempts'

Revathi Venkatraman, professor and chairperson, School of Computing, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, said, "Students are encouraged to discuss failed attempts and promote the culture of entrepreneurship in academic environment. They are motivated to embrace failures, adopt solutions, and emerge resilient."

Emphasising the introduction of entrepreneurial skills at school level, she said college students were exposed to a series of interventions, including boot camps and interaction with successful entrepreneurs.

These interventions boosted their confidence to cope with failures. They also learnt about the challenges faced by rural people through community connect programmes and came up with socially relevant solutions, she added.

Pointing out that incubation cells were a source of support to start-ups, Shaivee Malik, co-founder and COO, Yotuh Energy, said such cells were part of the ecosystem and helped discuss issues with other start-up founders. Mentorship and motivation were important particularly for those venturing into a sector without background.

Sudarshan Varatharajan, co-founder and CEO, Bversity, too underlined the significance of introducing entrepreneurial experiences early in schools and said it would help mindset among students and expose them to business and innovation skills.

Chandran Krishnan, managing director and chief executive officer, Campus Angels Network who moderated the session, said universities were becoming hubs for entrepreneurship, innovation, and incubation.

Sent messages

New Delhi must act in concert with Srinagar to isolate terrorists

In the aftermath of the gruesome terror incident in Pahalgam, India must hear clearly the message emanating from those who committed the heinous crimes. By targeting tourists by religion and killing them in cold blood, the terrorists have sought to undermine India's plurality and what the country stands for. By killing a local Kashmiri who tried to help the hapless tourists, and by targeting people in a popular location that benefits the Kashmiri economy, the attackers have grievously harmed the livelihoods of thousands of Kashmiris dependent on tourism. By choosing to attack unarmed tourists at a time when the U.S. Vice-President was visiting India, they have also sought to undermine the perception that economic activities had returned to normalcy after the tumultuous period following the abrogation of special status for Jammu and Kashmir. The tragic by-product of the killings is now fear of the possibility that such attacks on tourists may recur, and of the economic pain that this would cause ordinary Kashmiris. New Delhi's and Srinagar's responses must keep these in mind and work towards the mitigation of fear and send a clear message – the people of India, including Kashmiris, are united against terror.

Following the attacks, New Delhi has sought to use strong diplomatic measures available in its arsenal against Pakistan, as it is well known that such terror attacks are almost always carried out by radicalised elements who are trained by Islamabad's covert agencies. As it turns out, the mere absence of spectacular violence cannot be termed normalcy. Normalcy is a relative term and it is better experienced than announced. While the large-scale violence and militancy that was seen in the 1990s never happened despite the unpopularity of these decisions, the uneasy calm was reflected in the sporadic incidents of terrorism targeting Kashmiri Pandits, migrants, and security forces in new areas that were hitherto bereft of militancy. With significant curbs on political activity, there was little outlet even for demands related to governance for the citizenry. The conduct of Lok Sabha elections and the Supreme Court-mandated Assembly election process allowed for some expression of voices in the Valley, but it is a stretch to say that this was "normalcy". The Union government must work in concert with the Jammu and Kashmir government, empower Jammu and Kashmir by restoring Statehood, and assert this cohesion to isolate radical and violent elements threatening the livelihoods of Kashmiris and the lives of tourists visiting the serene valley.

Power and freedom

At stake is not the continuance of a Minister but propriety

The Supreme Court's remark on April 23, asking Tamil Nadu Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise V. Senthilbalaji, who has been out on bail since September 2024 in an alleged money laundering case, to choose between his post and freedom was expected. In the last four months, the Court has used strong language against the Minister on more than one occasion. Last December, the Court expressed its objection to the return of Mr. Senthilbalaji to the Cabinet a few days after it granted him bail. On March 24, it took a dim view of the lack of response from him to its question raised on February 12 over his continuance as Minister. Mr. Senthilbalaji, in all likelihood, would have anticipated what the Court said now. That two senior advocates, Kapil Sibal and Mukul Rohatgi, and an advocate for the Minister, had to persuade a Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan not to issue an interim order till Monday (April 29) is no common event in any court of law, let alone the Supreme Court. The observations of the Bench that it had been a "mistake" in granting him bail and that the conduct of the Minister was "dishonest," and the statement of Justice Oka to Mr. Sibal that "you [Mr. Senthilbalaji] will ensure that no witness comes to the box", reflect concerns that a Minister could tamper with evidence and influence witnesses. Clearly, Mr. Senthilbalaji would have done himself a favour by not returning to the Cabinet.

Even now, it is not too late for him to resign. If he does not, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin would be forced to act against him. What is at stake is not just the continuance of a Minister, but propriety. After all, the Court had granted Mr. Senthilbalaji bail not on merits, but on the ground that he had undergone an incarceration of one year as an under trial in the case. When it had not given him a clean chit in the first instance, his re-induction into the Cabinet has naturally become a subject matter before the Court, regardless of the correctness or otherwise of the Minister's claim that "there is not even a whisper of violation of any bail condition." On September 28, 2024, at the time when he was granted bail, *The Hindu* had pointed out that "the cause of justice for the victims of the job scandal and a fair trial for the accused would be served well if Mr. Stalin avoids inducting Mr. Senthilbalaji again in his Cabinet until he is cleared of the charges." The point still holds. Mr. Senthilbalaji should not risk the ignominy of getting dropped from the Cabinet on the recommendation of the Chief Minister.

Amidst regional ferment, Kurds' quest for statehood

Mahesh Sachdev

Retired Indian Ambassador with an interest in West Asian geopolitics. He is currently the president of Eco-Diplomacy and Strategies, based in New Delhi

West Asia is in a geo-engineering flux not seen since the birth of Israel 77 years ago. The perennial Palestinian issue is at a pivotal moment with an extreme right Israeli government's hard-line position at odds with the Arab States' insistence on a two-state solution for the Abraham Accords' expansion. After the loss of regional proxies and the resumption of American "maximum pressure" tactics and military threat, a weakened and isolated Iran has agreed to negotiate its nuclear programme. The toppling of the five decades-old al-Assad regime has created new paradigms. Although Turkey has ambitions to reshape Syria, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is battling an Intefadah at home. The decline of oil prices by a fifth in 2025 may upend the regional economic stability. Amidst this tumult, U.S. President Donald Trump, the global disruptor of "Gaza Riviera" fame, is set to pay his first visit abroad to the Gulf next month.

How does this regional commotion impact a century-old quest by Kurds for statehood? In the past century, two diaspora-based states, viz. Israel and Armenia, have been created in West Asia. Could Kurdistan be the next or, once again, likely to be brushed under the carpet as weightier developments and superpower politics take precedence? Let us examine the prospects in some detail.

An unrealised dream

Kurds are not only the biggest minority group in West Asia, but they are also the world's largest ethnic minority without a state of their own. Estimates vary, but their total population is put at 35 million-45 million. The overwhelming majority of them live in Turkey (around 17 million, 20% of the total population), Iraq (9 million, 20%), Iran (8 million, 10%), and Syria (2.5 million, 10%). Kurd diaspora exists in Germany (around 1.5 million) and other West European countries.

While Kurds have their sub-divisions, their common identity is shaped by a shared history and the craggy geography of Asia Minor. Anthropological studies put them to be of Old Mediterranean and Caucasian stock, distinct from either Turkic, Semitic, or Iranian ethnicities dominating their existence. While most Kurds are Sunni Muslims, they are linked to other regional ethnic minorities, such as Yezidis, Alevi, and Zoroastrianism.

The Kurds have a reputation for gritty bravery. Historically, they have often been either exploited as a geopolitical pawn or subject to suppression and exclusion. One of the rare occasions when they led the endgame was in the 12th century when Salahuddin, a Kurd General, commanded the Islamic legion to liberate Jerusalem from crusading Christian armies. The Kurdish quest for a state has remained unrequited. The nearest the Kurds came to realising this ambition was at the Treaty of Sevres in 1920, negotiated to dismantle the Ottoman empire. It promised the Kurds an autonomous state in eastern Turkey. However, the Young Turks under Kemal Ataturk thwarted the Kurdistan Homeland project and instead foisted assertive Turkish nationalism. Since then, Ankara has single-mindedly suppressed the identity of Kurds, who were officially called "mountain Turks". This repression has continued: as late as 1994, a Kurdish female MP was sentenced to 15 years in prison for temerity to speak a sentence in Kurdish after her swearing-in about the Kurd-Turk brotherhood.

> The prospects of Kurds being able to realise their aspirations for statehood have brightened. At the same time, Kurds remain divided along national, tribal, and intra-ethnic lines

Counterproductive repression

Turkish repression has been counterproductive: it led to the formation in 1978 of PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party) by Abdullah Öcalan which has waged a campaign for Kurdish independence. Mr. Öcalan was caught in 1999 and is still in solitary confinement in a Turkish jail. Four decades of no-holds-barred conflict has killed an estimated 37,000 people. Following the recent softening of Ankara's policies, Mr. Öcalan has called for the cessation of hostilities and PKK declared a ceasefire on March 15. Turkey has announced a $20 billion socio-economic reconstruction plan for the south-east of the country where most Kurds live but a political package to bring the Kurds to the Turkish mainstream is still awaited.

The 13-year civil war provided Syria's Kurds a rare opportunity to fill in the politico-strategic vacuum. With substantive American support, a formidable Kurdish Self Defence Force (SDF) was created to fight the Islamic State and al-Qaeda. SDF currently controls nearly 40% of Syria. This has caused considerable threat perceptions in Ankara which accuses SDF of helping PKK. Turkey has sought to checkmate the SDF by creating exclusion zones and forming a militia against it. However, the US pressure has prevented it from an anti-SDF military campaign. In a potentially far-reaching move on March 11, the SDF Commander and the interim Syrian President signed a basic agreement to integrate the SDF into the new Damascus politico-strategic architecture. Even otherwise, SDF's good fortunes may diminish with the planned attenuation of American military presence in Syria.

During Saddam Hussein's rule, Kurds in neighbouring Iraq suffered brutal pogroms, forced deportation and even chemical weapons attacks. However, the situation changed in 1991 after the U.S. Operation Desert Storm substantially weakened Iraqi hold over Kurds and a Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) was formed in 1992. The Constitution of Iraq following the U.S. occupation of the country granted the KRG considerable autonomy although a 2017 referendum on Kurdistan Regional Independence, which received 92% support, was disallowed by the Iraqi Supreme Court stating that no Iraqi province was allowed to secede. Meanwhile, oil-rich KRG has sought to assert its autonomy, often creating a piquant situation with Baghdad authorities. Following an international arbitration ruling, oil exports through the Kirkuk-Ceyhan pipeline have been suspended for the past two years. Turkish armed forces have also been active in hitting alleged PKK targets in KRG. Iran, too, has occasionally attacked the alleged hostile U.S.-Israeli presence in KRG. Thus, although KRG has now been around for over three decades, its existence is still quite tenuous.

The situation of Iranian Kurds

Compared to repression elsewhere in the region, the Iranian regimes have been marginally benign to its Kurds who mostly live in the northwest of the country along mountainous borders with Turkey and Iraq; some Kurds are also living in the Khorasan province in the northeast. These areas lie along the geo-strategic faultlines, forcing Kurds to choose between loyalty to Tehran, Ankara, or Baghdad. Unlike in other Kurdish-populated countries, there are strong ethnic and cultural ties between Kurds and Persians and some modern Iranian dynasties were partly of Kurdish origin. While Tehran has never employed the same level of brutality against its own Kurds as Turkey or Iraq, it has always been implacably opposed to Kurdish separatism. During the long Persian-Ottoman wars and the recent Iran-Iraq war, largely Sunni Kurds were often suspected of being the fifth column of the foreign powers. Under the Islamic Republic, attempts to Persianise, and general economic deprivation, spurred centrifugal tendencies among Iranian Kurds. With the considerable weakening of the Iranian state and looming prospects of the U.S.-Israel military campaign against Tehran, Iranian Kurds, the country's largest minority, may feel encouraged to secede.

Recent weakening of the central authority in each of the aforementioned four countries has brightened the prospects of Kurdish statehood and such proto-states have already emerged in Iraq and Syria. At the same time, they neither have a unifying ideology such as Zionism nor a transnational political entity to dovetail their statehood to the emerging grand Western strategy for West Asia. Their hopes rest on the regional entropy creating a situation conducive to the creation of a Kurdistan. However, even if such a pro-Western surrogate Kurdish state is grafted, it remains to be seen whether it would face autoimmune rejection (as Israel) from regional powers or take deep roots.

In short, Kurds' fate currently swings between two of their apt proverbs: "It is easy to catch a serpent with someone else's hand" and "Kurds (as a nation) have no friends, except the mountains."

Where tariffs trump economics

M. Suresh Babu

Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies. Views are personal

The recently announced reciprocal tariffs by U.S. President Donald Trump have led to a decline in the prices of key commodities, crude oil, volatility, and a downturn in stock markets. Since the tariff announcement, crude oil prices have declined by nearly 14%. This drop is driven by fears that the global economy, particularly trade between major economies, may slow down, which could lead to reduced demand for oil. The responses to the announcement have reinforced concerns that a full-scale global trade war is now under way. New trade tensions could lead to higher inflation, slower economic growth, and escalating disputes. More importantly, the announcement has ushered in an extended period of uncertainty, opening up new challenges to economic policy making. While higher-income economies have the time and armoury to retaliate to U.S. policies, lower-income ones face a double disadvantage. They have to cope with a new world order, while addressing pressing domestic economic issues.

The role of reciprocal tariffs

Reciprocal tariff is a tax that one country places on another in response to similar actions taken by that country. The rationale for this response is to protect local businesses, preserve jobs, and fix trade imbalances. Though the idea behind reciprocal tariffs is to create balance in trade, they can lead to a back-and-forth increase in trade barriers with negative impacts on both economies. The evolution of reciprocal tariffs can be traced to when countries began using tariffs to shield their local industries, boost economic growth, and negotiate better trade deals. While reciprocal tariffs can help local industries in the short run, they lead to higher prices for consumers, disrupt supply chains, and slow down growth. Tariffs were a major source of income for governments, but this has greatly reduced. They now serve as protective measures or negotiation tools.

> The proposed tariffs are expected to deliver a blow to India's merchandise exports to the U.S.

Targeting Asia

Two aspects of the tariff tirade stand out. First, no other regions have been hit as hard as South Asia and Southeast Asia. Economic development over the past three decades in these regions has largely been driven by exports to the rest of the world, particularly the U.S. Exports to the U.S. contribute around 30% of Vietnam's GDP and 25% of Cambodia's. Vietnam and Cambodia have been hit by some of the highest tariffs (46% and 49%, respectively). Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore have been hit by tariffs of varying magnitudes. Among countries of that region, this round of tariffs poses perhaps the greatest threat for Cambodia. The garment industry, which employs close to 7,50,000 workers, has been crucial in providing steady incomes to the poor. Thousands of jobs in this sector are now likely to be lost. The smaller economies of Southeast Asia are not in a position to retaliate, unlike China, which has hit back with its own measures. These economies can only negotiate. And the interests of the U.S. would primarily guide such negotiations.

The second is the curious case of calculation of tariffs. The formula underpinning reciprocal tariff is the country's trade deficit with the U.S., divided by its exports, and then divided by two. The U.S. also implemented a 10% baseline tariff on almost every country. However, the formula for calculating tariff rates for nations around the world is based on an elasticity rate lower than it should be in practice. The formula assumes an elasticity of import prices with respect to tariffs of about 0.25, but economists are of the view that the number should be closer to one. This one-size-fits-all formula is blunt as it applies the same math to countries whether they have substantial trade barriers or wide-open markets. It considers only the size of the trade deficit, not why the deficit exists. Also, the trade deficit is calculated using only goods (items that can be shipped) and not services (technology, banking). This benefits countries which export few goods but plenty of financial services to the U.S.

Prospects for India

The proposed tariffs are expected to deliver a blow to India's merchandise exports to the U.S. If tariff plans are implemented after the current pause, India could see a $7.76 billion drop (6.4%) in exports to the U.S. this year, according to an estimate by Global Trade Research Initiative. In 2024, India exported $89 billion worth of goods to the U.S. This underscores the need for India to broaden the trade base necessitating swift trade policy actions. First, India has to secure a balanced trade deal with the U.S., which requires continuous negotiations. Second, it needs to fast-track trade agreements with the European Union, the U.K., and Canada. Third, it needs to deepen ties with Russia, Japan, South Korea, ASEAN, and the UAE. Fourth, it needs to handle ties with China with deftness and strategic intent.

Some believe that India could convert the situation into an opportunity. These beliefs are partly driven by the spectacular success of Apple's iPhone exports from India (by 54% last year). Hidden behind this achievement is the fact that the total goods exports for 2024-25 was $437 billion, which is the same as last year. Given this reality, cashing on the present situation requires enormous homework. A set of coherent reforms encompassing rationalised tariffs, simpler GST, easier trade processes and fair implementation of quality standards and controls are prerequisites for such an ambition. Easier, straightforward responses to intensify inward orientation runs the risk of missing a global moment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Security breach

The dastardly attack in Pahalgam is reminiscent of the 2008 Mumbai attacks ("Editorial: Unity and resolve", April 24). Indian agencies must track down the killers, figure out how they reached Pahalgam, and plug loopholes in the security system that enabled them to target the tourist hotspot. The onus is on the political and security establishment in New Delhi and Srinagar to work together to uncover the terror networks and nail the perpetrators.

Gregory Fernandes
Mumbai

While India has taken a series of measures against Pakistan, it must also focus on strengthening its intelligence system.

P.R. Ravinder
Hyderabad

The attack happened due to the failure of security forces. This is a popular tourist destination. When the Pakistan Army Chief made vituperative statements, the Indian security forces ought to have been on high alert. Someone needs to take accountability for this lapse.

M. Ramdas
Visakhapatnam

Hate speech

It is disheartening to see the hate being perpetuated online against one community in the aftermath of the terrorist attack. Syed Adil Hussain Shah, a pony ride operator, also lost his life while trying to stop a terrorist. The terrorists want to divide us and they seem to be succeeding.

Safeem A.S.
Kochi

Corrections & Clarifications

The name of *Baisaran* valley was wrongly mentioned as *Bairawan* in the first paragraph of a report, "Terrorists asked name and religion of male tourists, shot them, says survivor" ("News page", April 24, 2025)

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28576347/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

To read more letters online, scan the QR code.

Is the World Trade Organization still relevant?

PARLEY

Mohan Kumar

Professor of Diplomatic Practice at the Jindal School of International Affairs, O.P. Jindal Global University. He previously served as India's lead negotiator at GATT and WTO

Mark Linscott

Senior Adviser with the U.S.India Strategic Partnership Forum and former assistant, United States Trade Representative for South and Central Asia

United States President Donald Trump's 'reciprocal tariffs' have been compared to the Smoot-Hawley tariffs of the 1930s, which many say hastened the slide into the Great Depression. The difference between the 1930s and now is that we have the World Trade Organization (WTO) to oversee and enforce global trade rules. However, some argue that over the years, the WTO has gradually lost its compass and is in need of massive reforms. Is the WTO still relevant? Mark Linscott and Mohan Kumar discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Samreen Wani**. Edited excerpts:

Has the WTO been sidelined? Will the U.S. pay heed to any advice from the WTO?

Mohan Kumar: The WTO, as we know it, is gone. It is irrelevant and has been sidelined. I don't want to say it is dead yet. The WTO was expected to perform three functions – the negotiating function, the dispute settlement function, and the trade monitoring function – and it is not performing any of them. The negotiating function has gone for a six since Doha [the Doha Round of talks in 2001]. There is only one multilateral agreement – the fisheries agreement – that has been concluded, and even that has not been fully concluded. The Appellate body or the dispute settlement mechanism (DSM) has also being rendered dysfunctional. It started during Barack Obama's time. Since then, the U.S. has blocked appointments to the Appellate body, the ultimate court of appeal. The WTO tries to do whatever it can under the trade monitoring function, but that is not being performed efficiently because there is a lot of opacity about trade measures from a number of members, particularly one big member. The fact that the Trump tariffs are happening at a time when the multilateral trading system has been rendered toothless and inefficient makes it much more serious.

Mark Linscott: I agree with Ambassador Kumar that the WTO has been sidelined. The decline of the WTO and its diminishing relevance goes back long before the first Trump administration to the launch of the Doha Round. I think that mandate was misplaced. It was perhaps too ambitious, too far reaching, and basically [had] mismatched expectations. We also had the accession of China. And I think there was a degree of naivete about how well WTO rules would function with respect to China's measures and its behaviour on trade. During the Doha Round, the mismatched expectations involved some of the grievances that are felt now by the Trump administration. There were efforts to negotiate on large disparities on tariffs and [there was] really no traction in those negotiations to lower tariffs multilaterally on a non-discriminatory basis.

A logo outside the WTO in Geneva, Switzerland. REUTERS

The U.S. has for too long blocked appointments to the Appellate body, but there were grievances associated with the operations of the WTO's DSM and the Appellate body, and whether it was in fact engaging in 'legislating' as opposed to simply looking at facts.

If these tariffs do come into effect, can the WTO prevent an economic crisis?

ML: No. The WTO is not in a position to stem any global economic decline. It is not a forum where most nations can come together, be honest with one another, and essentially find a solution out of that kind of crisis.

MK: The basic problem is that consensus or decision making by consensus is proving to be a problem. When this issue was discussed in the legal drafting group, two countries opposed voting – India and the U.S. So, if there are reforms to be made on the basis of decision making, we will have to get around the principle of 'consensus'. On the question of dispute settlement, the European Union put forward a proposal on arbitration which has not found universal favour. On trade monitoring, there is no way of forcing countries to somehow disclose the measures they have taken, to the WTO.

At this juncture, is there a complete erosion of the MFN (most-favoured-nation) principle?

MK: The bedrock of the multilateral trading system is Article 1, MFN. Free trade agreement (FTA) is an exception to Article 1 and has to be blessed by the WTO. If you conclude an FTA, you have to intimate the WTO. I concede that

> The WTO was expected to perform three functions — the negotiating function, the dispute settlement function, and the trade monitoring function — and it is not performing any of them.
> **MOHAN KUMAR**

the WTO has not done a great job in minutely scrutinising the FTAs.

The tariffs indicate the U.S.'s final withdrawal from the WTO system. Second, they introduce tremendous uncertainty. And finally, they also introduce a certain degree of complexity because I don't know if the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has the resources to negotiate with 60 countries all at once. But India has got a first movers advantage [in negotiating a trade deal].

ML: MFN goes back to 1947 with the creation of GATT [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade]. And that is part of the problem, at least from the U.S.'s standpoint. What has fed the grievances of the Trump administration is the sense that the U.S., perhaps rashly and unilaterally, over many rounds of trade negotiations, lowered its simple average tariffs to a very low level compared to many other countries, including India. Then, when efforts were made to continue tariff liberalisation and expectations were high that other countries would follow suit and lower their tariffs, that didn't happen. The U.S. started stepping away boldly from MFN during the first Trump administration but it was continued by the Biden administration. Section 232 (tariffs on steel and aluminium) and Section 301 (tariffs against China) were maintained by the Biden administration. With Trump 2.0 we have got a much more radical set of circumstances. There is consensus among Democrats and Republicans that MFN has not worked well for the U.S. Countries started negotiating FTAs on an accelerated basis in the late 1990s and early 2000s. And many countries through FTAs were stepping away from MFN. They found it easier to negotiate on tariffs bilaterally than at the WTO.

It has been decades since any consensus was reached on fisheries subsidies, agricultural subsidies, and on public stock holding of grains. India has led the opposition to these agreements. Why is that the case?

MK: While the major players will have to bear the major responsibility of the collapse of the WTO because of just the sheer weight of trade clout that they possess, India also did its bit. We objected to some things that we should not have objected to.

India cannot do much when it comes to agriculture. This is a politically sensitive area for any government in India. The WTO was callous when it came to India's concerns on agriculture. While the U.S. and the EU were allowed to subsidise so much over the years, India, which relies on domestic production, was limited to a 10% subsidy. India finds itself in a situation where it does not want to negotiate labour standards and environmental protection at the WTO, but is okay to discuss this bilaterally with the EU, the U.K., and maybe even with the U.S. The only explanation I have heard is from a former commerce secretary who said that India wants a certain degree of comfort doing this bilaterally first.

ML: The view in the U.S. is different from the Indian view as to what extent the developed world was ignoring the sensitivities and food security concerns of many developing countries, particularly India's. There are many other developing countries which don't necessarily share India's view. Negotiations collapsed on agriculture and domestic support. It is almost impossible to negotiate bilaterally on subsidies.

There has been a lot of criticism, particularly from the U.S., that the WTO has allowed China to flood the global markets with cheap exports, but simultaneously restricted access to its domestic markets. Would you agree with this assessment?

ML: China is a remarkable challenge globally, economically, and on trade. When China joined the WTO, nobody anticipated how lacking the WTO rules would be in addressing the China challenge and how dominant China would become as an export juggernaut.

MK: When we framed the rules we had no idea of things which do not necessarily violate the WTO rules but which still undermine the integrity of the multilateral trading system. So, for example, there was never any question of looking at excess capacity and how one country, which can produce more than 50% of steel and cement, would suddenly flood the market and distort trade. And trade distorting measures are extremely important to the WTO. But we could not frame the rules for it because we simply did not foresee this.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

Treating the dead with dignity

Bodies are often accorded little respect in government hospitals, which makes it difficult for relatives to cope. But there is scope for change

Soma Basu

In the pre-privatisation era, public hospitals faced huge challenges in managing patients due to overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure such as beds and equipment, and limited resources. The 1990s were also the time when frequent epidemics of gastroenteritis and cholera hit Delhi, claiming lives across hospitals in the city.

In 1992, I was sent to Safdarjang Hospital to report on the condition of gastroenteritis-affected patients and the status of the government hospital. As is the case even now, the general ward that morning three decades ago was overflowing with patients. Amid that chaos, as I walked across the ward, I noticed that two people had died. I was distressed by the sight but there was something that would disturb me even more: the insensitivity of the staff.

For the paramedics, nurses, and medicos on duty, caregiving and declaring death are both routine business. There were at least 30 beds in that room and a majority made space for more than one patient. The over-burdened doctors showed no urgency in coming to the bed where the bodies lay still.

However, after they completed the mandatory paper work, there was a flurry of activity. "*Bed No.2 waale ko borey me pack kar do jaldi* (pack the man in bed No. 2 in the sack quickly)", shouted a technician across the room.

I watched the body being swiftly shoved into a jute bag. I had no connection with the patient, but I was upset. Why was a body being treated in such an inhumane, undignified manner? The next set of patients was immediately brought in to occupy the bed.

I encountered more such situations inside government hospitals in later years of reporting. I particularly remember visiting the mortuary at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences after the Uphaar cinema fire tragedy in 1997 – bodies were flung across the ward and wails rendered the air.

To exit emotionally from such situations is not easy for reporters. I would often argue with my doctor friends about this callousness. They would acknowledge that empathy is crucial in healthcare, but would also cite the many barriers they faced – time constraints, a heavy workload, stress, burnout, and emotional exhaustion – that made it impossible for them to demonstrate it.

In a country such as ours, numbers are a bane. Following a death, bills are brought out quickly and beds vacated, leaving the affected families helpless. Why can't hospitals be grounded in comfort and dignity? I was once told there is unnecessary suffering because a dying patient is often viewed as a failure.

I wondered, could a department established just to handle bodies address the gap? End-of-life care is not yet fully realised in our hospitals. It is important to talk to those in mourning and treat a body with dignity. This helps the family deal with grief at that moment, which is necessary yet ignored.

Recently, my father died at AIIMS. Seeing how the hospital handled his body showed me how we can reconfigure entire care systems. One may argue that the perspective changes when a body is being donated for medical purposes (as was the case with my father's body) and that such care may not be possible in every case. But I believe that the respectful environment created by the anatomy department is not difficult to replicate.

The AIIMS anatomy department has devised simple ways to honour the departed. One person simply told me, "Your father is under our care." Those few words impacted me. After my father's passing, his body was given to us the next day, washed and wrapped in a clean white sheet. We were provided space within the department to perform a few basic rites. We were also told that once the medical purpose was served, AIIMS would perform the cremation on behalf of the family and give us his ashes later for immersion. I couldn't have asked for a more dignified closure.

soma.basu@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK | Solace in summer

Women of the Lanjia Saora tribal group dance to celebrate the mango harvest in the Gunupur region of Rayagada district, Odisha. K.R DEEPAK

Shot on OnePlus #FramesofIndia

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 25, 1975

Israel's independence: Soviet offer

Moscow, April 24: The Soviet Union yesterday offered its backing for the "strictest guarantees of Israel's existence and independence – if it was prepared to withdraw from occupied Arab territories. The pledge, made by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Andrel Gromyko, at a Kremlin dinner in honour of the visiting Syrian Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdel-Khalim Khaddam, was seen as the strongest Soviet promise yet to preserve the Jewish State.

Mr. Gromyko also re-affirmed his Government's support for a reconvened Geneva peace conference, but urged thorough preparation so that the forum should not become as empty "fanfaronade."

If Israel's leaders wanted to ensure the peaceful development of their country, they simply had to abandon plans to annex other people's territories, the Foreign Minister declared.

"Israel may get, if it wishes so, the strictest guarantees with the participation – under an appropriate agreement – of the Soviet Union," he said. "These guarantees would ensure peaceful conditions for the existence and development of all States in the Middle East," Mr. Gromyko said.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO APRIL 25, 1925

North-Western Ry. strike

Lahore, April 24: The North-Western Railway strike situation is about the same as yesterday and men with previous railway experience are being engaged in satisfactory numbers in the place of the absentees. A recent change in the situation is that a proportion of the yard staff and of the station carriage staff at Lahore have absented themselves and have been replaced.

The Agent in an official statement says that the present trouble cannot be described so much as a strike, as the culminating incident of a breakdown of collective bargaining.

From Page One

Pakistan shuts airspace, snaps trade relations

In addition, Pakistan also cancelled the SAARC visa held by Indians, but made an exception for Sikh pilgrims; officials said the Kartarpur corridor to Pakistan will remain open for the present.

Briefing the media in Islamabad, Pakistan defence minister Khwaja Asif accused New Delhi of planning an "all-out war" to strike Pakistani cities. "If there is an attack on [Pakistani] citizens, Indian citizens will not be safe either... we will make Indians pay through their noses (sic)," he threatened. Pakistan also matched the decisions taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday.

These decisions were announced after a meeting of Pakistan's National Security Council (NSC) in Islamabad, chaired by Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and including senior Cabinet members and defence chiefs.

'Unilateral and unjust'

A statement issued by the Pakistan Prime Minister's office said that the NSC had expressed "concern over the loss of tourists' lives" and "unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations", but criticised the measures taken by India in response to the Pahalgam attack as "unilateral, unjust, politically motivated, extremely irresponsible and devoid of legal merit".

Taking note of India's decision to put the Indus Water Treaty "in abeyance", the Pakistan NSC warned that any attempt to "stop or divert the flow of water belonging to Pakistan as per the Indus Waters Treaty", would be considered an Act of War. It also threatened to cancel other bilateral agreements with India, including the Shimla Accord of 1972, which had converted the ceasefire line into the Line of Control and rejected any third-party mediation in the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Attackers will be punished, says PM

Issuing a stern warning to terrorists, he said, "They will be punished beyond their imagination." The perpetrators will face the "full might of India's response", he said. He also urged the crowd to observe a minute's silence for the victims.

Trains flagged off

On Thursday, he launched development works worth over ₹13,480 crore from Jhanjharpur in north Bihar. He also flagged off several trains, which included the State's second Amrit Bharat Express train.

The gathered crowd cheered loudly when Mr. Modi declared that those responsible for the terror attack on "Indian's soul" would not go unpunished.

'Meadow opened sans police permission'

"IB and Home Ministry officials briefed the all-party meeting on how the incident took place and where the lapses occurred," Mr. Rijiju said. He added that the meadow was away from the main road and was accessible only by foot or pony. "It takes two to two-and-a-half hours to reach there," he said.

According to Opposition sources, Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed the meeting that the meadow was opened to tourists without police permission, and in two days, more than 1,000 people had visited.

He said while there was no security presence at Baisaran on the day of the incident, 500 security personnel were present in Pahalgam on the day and that it took around 45 minutes to trek to the spot.

The Minister also stated that they could not trace any communication signal within a radius of 50 km of Baisaran for at least five days before the attack.

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi reportedly remarked that it was a "glaring security failure" and it was astonishing that thousands of people were roaming in an area without the knowledge of the police.

Students from Kashmir face backlash

"The J&K government is in touch with the governments of the States where these reports are originating from. I'm also in touch with my counterpart Chief Ministers in these States & have requested they take extra care," he said. The J&K government also issued helpline numbers to provide assistance to Kashmiris studying in different parts of the country.

J&K Deputy CM Surinder Choudhary met Maharashtra Deputy CM Eknath Shinde, and discussed the distress calls received from people of J&K living in Maharashtra. Former J&K CM and Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti also spoke with Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Jammu and Kashmir Students Association national convenor Nasir Khuehami said that the association's helpline number has received distress calls from students in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Havildar Jhantu Ali Shaikh

Soldier killed in encounter with terrorists in Udhampur

The Hindu Bureau
JAMMU

One soldier was killed in a firefight with terrorists in Udhampur district in the Jammu region on Thursday. A spokesperson of the Army's White Knight Corps said security forces, based on specific intelligence, launched a joint operation with the Jammu and Kashmir Police in Basantgarh, Udhampur.

"A contact was established and a fierce firefight ensued. One of our bravehearts sustained grievous injuries in the initial exchange and later succumbed despite best medical efforts," the Army said.

The Army identified the slain soldier as Havaldar Jhantu Ali Shaikh of the Army's 6 PARA.

After terror attack, militaries of India, Pak. on high alert

Amid escalating tensions, the Indian Navy's latest guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* fired a medium-range surface-to-air missile against a 'sea skimming' target in the western Indian Ocean

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Tensions between India and Pakistan escalated sharply on Thursday, with widespread expectations of possible punitive strikes by India in response to the Pahalgam terror attack.

This follows several diplomatic measures targeting Pakistan, which responded with counter measures, even while the militaries of both countries remain on high alert.

Amid escalating tensions, the Indian Navy's latest guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* fired a medium-range surface-to-air missile (MRSAM) against a "sea skimming" target in the western Indian Ocean.

This came just before Pakistan issued a "Nav area" warning for live firing in the Arabian Sea spread over a vast area parallel to a major portion of its coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

On the boil: The Navy's guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* carries out precision cooperative engagement of a sea skimming target. ANI

These developments come amid speculation that India may strike against terrorists or terrorist infrastructure across the Line of Control (LoC), strengthened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's warning that "India will identify, track and punish every terrorist, their handlers and their backers." The widespread perception is also a result of India's past responses to major terror attacks, including the Uri surgical strikes in 2016 and the Balakot air strike in 2019.

"The Indian Navy's latest indigenous guided missile destroyer *INS Surat* has successfully carried out a precision cooperative engagement of a sea-skimming target, marking a significant milestone in strengthening the Navy's defence capabilities," a Navy official said.

The cooperation engagement means that the detection of the incoming threat, its classification, and then triggering the missile launch to shoot it down was done by more than one platform in real-time coordination.

Aircraft carrier at sea

Meanwhile, indigenous aircraft carrier *INS Vikrant*, which is based at the Karwar port on the western seaboard, is on deployment in the Arabian Sea as shown by satellite images.

The Indian Air Force's Akraman exercise is under way in the central sector. Defence sources said this is a routine training exercise held regularly.

Officials said that any military option exercised by India should factor in the escalation matrix, while choosing both what option to exercise and also the nature of the target, as it will certainly invite a response from Pakistan.

Assam MLA held after he hints at BJP 'conspiracy'

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Assam Police arrested Aminul Islam, MLA, on Thursday, a day after he remarked that the Pahalgam terror attack and the 2019 Pulwama incident could be the result of a "conspiracy" by the top BJP leadership.

Speaking at a political rally on Wednesday, the AIUDF legislator said he suspected a connection between the two attacks. "The day 42 Indian soldiers were killed in Pulwama, I said it was a conspiracy. The government conspired to polarise voters and win the 2019 Lok Sabha election. I demanded a probe, but till today, we don't know how a vehicle carrying 300 kg of RDX could enter a CRPF convoy in a high-security area," Mr. Islam said.

"If the government does not conduct an impartial probe into this [Pahalgam] incident and resort to Hindu-Muslim divisive politics, we will suspect this happened due to a conspiracy hatched by [Prime Minister] Narendra Modi and [Home Minister] Amit Shah," he added.

Tejashwi terms Pahalgam terrorist attack an intelligence failure

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD)-led Grand Alliance on Thursday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding the terror attack in Pahalgam, during its second meeting held at the Congress office in Patna.

Former Deputy Chief Minister and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav voiced concern over the lack of security measures at the site where 2,000 people had gathered in Pahalgam, south Kashmir.

Mr. Yadav highlighted the absence of security forces, stating: "Shristi, sister of Navy officer Lieutenant Vinay Narwal who was killed in the terrorist attack, said that Vinay was alive for a hour and a half after being shot but no one came to help. I want to ask, if 2,000 tourists had gathered at one place, why was there no security arrangement? Not a single security person was present at the site despite knowing the fact that Pahalgam comes under a high-security zone." He further pointed out that "since 2014, there have been 3,982 terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir in which 413 civilians and 630 security personnel have been martyred".

Party stand: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav addresses a press conference in Patna on Thursday. ANI

"Who is responsible for these serious lapses and who will hold the responsibility? Out of political vendetta, the Centre deploys most of the Central agencies behind the Opposition leaders but they fail to deploy the agencies behind the terrorists," Mr. Yadav alleged.

He added, "We don't mind deploying agencies behind the Opposition leaders but at least stop the terrorists."

'Centre must answer'

Mr. Yadav termed the Pahalgam attack an intelligence failure, asserting, "Terrorists must have done the recce and selected the spot before the attack along with a lot of other planning, and the Centre must answer how it happened." He also questioned the role of the country's intelligence and surveillance department.

Accompanied by other leaders of the INDIA bloc including Bihar Congress in-charge Krishna Allavaru, Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) president Mukesh Sahani and Left parties, Mr. Yadav asked what happened to the probe report of the 2019 Pulwama attack. "Every citizen of the country including me wants to know what happened to the Pulwama probe and how did more than 200 kg of RDX reach? What happened to the probe and whose failure was it?" he asked.

The RJD leader accused the Union government and media organisations of communalising the issue. "Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP], the Centre and several media organisations are setting a narrative of giving communal angle to hide their own failure. Such an initiative by the BJP is fatal for the country, democracy and Constitution and the Grand Alliance strongly opposes it," Mr. Yadav stated.

Taking a dig at Mr. Modi, Mr. Yadav commented on his visit to Bihar, "He cancelled his Kanpur trip but visited Bihar because an election is there in the State."

Pak. detains BSF jawan, efforts on to get him back

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Border Security Force (BSF) jawan was detained by the Pakistan Rangers after he inadvertently crossed the border in Punjab on Wednesday afternoon. A BSF official said on Thursday that flag meetings were being held with the Rangers to secure his release.

Constable P.K. Sahu of the 182nd battalion was apprehended by Pakistan Rangers across the Ferozepur border while he was accompanying farmers beyond the fence. Farmers are allowed to cultivate land metres ahead of the fence in the presence of BSF personnel.

Brace for longer flights to Gulf, Europe and the U.S. as Pakistan shuts its airspace

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Pakistan's decision to close its airspace for all Indian airlines will force domestic carriers to take a longer route to destinations in the Gulf region, Europe, the U.K. and North America that will likely lead to a spike in airfares.

The National Security Committee of Pakistan decided to close Pakistan airspace for all Indian-owned or operated airlines, according to a media statement issued by the Pakistan Prime Minister's Office.

The restriction also includes aircraft leased by Indian airlines as well as military flights, according to a notice to airmen that followed. The NOTAM is valid until May 23.

"It is expected that some Air India flights to or from North America, UK, Europe, and Middle East will take an alternative extended route," Air India said in a post on X.

IndiGo said some international flights may be impacted due to the closure of Pakistani airspace. The airline cancelled its flights to Almaty and Tashkent on Thursday.

Some flights already en route and scheduled to operate via Pakistani airspace had to stop for refuelling because of the longer flight path.

The impact on re-routing could lead to an increase in flight duration of up to 20 minutes for some destinations in West Asia, and up to 90 minutes for those in the U.S. resulting in more fuel burn and higher airfares.

On February 26, 2019, too Pakistan had shut its airspace for all airlines in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack during which 40 CRPF soldiers were killed and the Indian Air Force (IAF) carried out air strikes in retaliation in Balakot, Pakistan. While it gradually removed restrictions for carriers of other countries, the ban was withdrawn for Indian airlines five months later on July 16.

INBRIEF

Third day of state mourning for Pope Francis tomorrow

The third and final day of state mourning declared as a mark of respect for Pope Francis will be held on Saturday when his funeral mass and burial are carried out, the government said. The National Flag will be flown at half mast throughout India on all buildings and there will be no official entertainment on the day, an official statement said. Pope Francis, the first non-European Pope in nearly 1,300 years, died on April 21 aged 88. He was diagnosed with double pneumonia. PTI

Delhi court dismisses Rana's plea seeking to talk to family

A Delhi court on Thursday dismissed the plea of jailed 26/11 terror attack accused Tahawwur Hussain Rana seeking to talk to his family members. "Not allowed," special Judge Chander Jit Singh held. Rana filed the plea through his lawyer and said talking to his family members was a fundamental right and they must be worried about his well being. The NIA opposed the application, arguing he could share crucial information if allowed to speak with his family members. PTI

Three Maoist women killed in operation in Bijapur

At least three Maoists, all of them women, have been killed this week in a major operation being carried out along the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border, a senior police officer said. The operation, one of the biggest-ever in the conflict-hit Bastar region, began on Monday and has continued through the week. While three bodies have been recovered as of Thursday evening, the police suspect that more Maoists may have been killed, even as an exchange of fire was reported in a forest in the Karegutta hills in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district.

APPEAL

Baby Sagar Yadav, in Patient No. MH016071498, 1 year 1 month old son of Sujeet Kumar admitted Manipal Hospitals is diagnosed to be suffering from Congenital Heart Disease, Dextroposition, Myxomatous AV Valve, Severe MR and Grade II TR, Dilatation of Aortic Sinus and ST Junction. He requires to undergo Mitral Valve Repair and Tricuspid Valve Repair. The estimated cost of the surgery is **Rs. 7,00,000**/-.

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Sagar Yadav. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Cong. blames Pakistan for Pahalgam attack, calls for analysis of security failures

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

The Congress Working Committee meeting in New Delhi on Thursday taking stock of the J&K situation. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The Congress Working Committee on Thursday accused Pakistan of "masterminding" the Pahalgam terror attack, and called for a "comprehensive analysis of the intelligence and security failures". It accused the BJP and its proxy social media handles of "exploiting the attack to sow further discord, mistrust, and polarisation".

The articulation by the Congress's highest decision-making body effected a subtle change from party president Mallikarjun Kharge's comment that this was not the time for "partisan politics".

"This is not an attack, we are putting out our primary findings. Don't you feel that there is no security lapse? ... We being a responsible Opposition party have to ask the question to the government for future also," party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said, on being asked about the CWC resolution that talked about security lapse and attacked the BJP.

Mr. Venugopal, along with Jairam Ramesh and Pawan Khera, read out the CWC resolution, expressing "its deepest shock and condemnation of the heinous terrorist attack in Pahalgam".

"This cowardly and calculated act of terror, masterminded by Pakistan, is a direct assault on the values of our Republic. The deliberate targeting of Hindus was done to inflame passions across the country. We appeal for calm in the face of this grave provocation and reaffirm our collective strength in the face of adversity," it said.

"Pahalgam is known to be a heavily guarded area, secured by a three-tier security arrangement. It is imperative that a comprehensive analysis is conducted into the intelligence failures and security lapses that enabled such an attack in a Union Territory – an area directly under the purview of the Union Home Ministry. These questions must be raised in the larger public interest. This is the only way justice can truly be seen to be served for the families whose lives have been so brutally devastated," the resolution noted.

"However, it is shocking that the BJP is exploiting this grave tragedy through official and proxy social media platforms to sow further discord, mistrust, polarisation and division at a time when unity and solidarity are most needed," it added.

Gloom gives way to rage as kin of victims raise poor security

There were no security personnel at the time of attack, and nearest security camps are a few kilometres away; officials say government's policy is to keep Army away from tourist destinations; no communication signal could be traced, says Shah

Dinakar Peri
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Expressing anguish: Union Minister C.R. Patil with the wife of Shaileshbhai Kalathiya, who was killed in the Pahalgam Terror Attack, during his funeral in Surat on Thursday. ANI

As the mortal remains of the victims of the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam reached their homes on Thursday, the relatives raised questions on the absence of any security presence in the tourist paradise. As many as 26 people were killed in the terror attack targeted at male tourists, who were singled out based on their religion.

In Surat, Shital Kalathiya, wife of Shaileshbhai Kalathiya (44), a banker who was gunned down by terrorists, burst out in anger at Union Minister C.R. Patil on Thursday, seeking answers to why there were no security personnel or a medical unit deployed in the area.

Speaking to the Minister who had arrived to offer condolences, Ms. Kalathiya said, "You have so many VIP cars. Your life matters. What about the person who pays tax? There was not a single military person present there nor was there any medical team."

She said Hindus and Muslims were segregated and the men among the former were killed by terrorists who were laughing and taking selfies after the shooting. The Baisaran meadow is accessible only by foot or on pony. The pony handlers rescued several injured tourists.

Paras Jain, a resident of Maharashtra who survived the attack, told *The Hindu* earlier that the firing continued for 25-30 minutes, and there were no security personnel around at the time of the attack.

Nearest camps

The nearest security camps are located a few kilometres away. While the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) camp is 7 km away, the camp of the Rashtriya Rifles of the Army is at a distance of 5 km.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed an all-party meeting on Thursday that Baisaran was opened for tourists without informing the police and the hotel owners should have been responsible and followed the security protocol before sending the tourists there. The Minister is learnt to have said at the meeting that incident should not have happened adding that there was no security there on the day of the incident.

The Minister is learnt to have said that the security agencies could not trace any communication signal within a radius of 50 km of Baisaran for at least five days before the attack.

He said it was wrong to make an exaggerated statement that it was a security failure but the hotels should have informed the police that they are opening new spot for the tourists.

He said following the incident, four spots have been closed and security has been provided at other spots.

'No specific inputs'

A defence source said there were no specific intelligence inputs to suggest that the tourist place could be targeted by terrorists and as per the government's policy, Army deployment is consciously kept away from tourist destinations.

Omar Abdullah

J&K parties flay attack, call it assault on 'Kashmiriyat'

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Putting up a joint face in the wake of the deadly attack, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday chaired an all-party meeting in Srinagar.

The parties passed a joint resolution terming the terror attack "a direct assault on the values of Kashmiriyat and the idea of India, a symbol of unity, peace, and harmony in the region".

'Barbaric incident'

"While the spirit of Kashmir was under attack, the people stood united in grief, resilience, and determination to uphold peace and harmony. The all-party meet expressed deep anguish over the barbaric incident. A joint resolution was adopted in the spirit of collective solidarity and firm resolve," Mr. Abdullah said.

The all-party meeting was attended by all the regional and national parties, including the BJP, the Congress, the CPI(M), the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), the J&K Peoples Conference, the J&K Apni Party (JKAP), the Awami Ittehad Party (AIP).

"We unequivocally condemn in the strongest possible terms the heinous, inhumane attack in Pahalgam that targeted and killed innocent civilians," the resolution reads. The participants, it said, stand unwavering in "our commitment to support all efforts in bringing these perpetrators to justice."

India revokes visas issued to Pakistan nationals; Foreign Secretary briefs envoys of G-20 nations

Kallol Bhattacherjee
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday announced a five-pronged response targeting Pakistan against the backdrop of the attack. PTI

India on Thursday announced the revocation of "all existing valid visas" issued to Pakistani nationals with effect from April 27 as tensions between the two countries escalated over the Pahalgam attack.

"Medical visas issued to Pakistani nationals will be valid only till April 29, 2025. All Pakistani nationals currently in India must leave India before the expiry of visas, as now amended. Indian nationals are strongly advised to avoid travelling to Pakistan. Those Indian nationals currently in Pakistan are also advised to return to India at the earliest," the External Affairs Ministry said, announcing that the "Government of India has decided to suspend visa services to Pakistani nationals with immediate effect."

India had on Wednesday announced a five-pronged response targeting Pakistan against the backdrop of the attack. On Wednesday, it announced that the Integrated Check Post at Attari will be closed with "immediate effect" saying that "those who have crossed over with valid endorsements may return through that route before May 1, 2025".

Misri briefs envoys

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Thursday briefed the India-based envoys of the G-20 nations about the Indian response to the terror attack.

Diplomatic sources who spoke to *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity said Mr. Misri's briefing indicated that further Indian actions would "depend on how the other side reacts".

The briefing focused on the extent of the terror attack in Pahalgam that left at least 25 Indian citizens and a Nepal citizen dead. The envoys were told that the attackers were "hardcore terrorists who had infiltrated from across the border" and that India is uncovering links between terrorists and their backers in Pakistan.

Diplomatic sources said Mr. Misri shared that investigators had identified one of the attackers, but did not mention his nationality.

He said the "communication platforms" that were used during the attack and that authorities here used facial recognition technology to identify the attackers. India has identified that one of the killers was involved in a similar attack in Jammu and Kashmir in the past.

King Abdullah II of Jordan and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel called Prime Minister Narendra Modi and condemned the terror strike. "PM Netanyahu strongly condemned the terror attack on Indian soil. PM Modi reiterated India's firm resolve to bring the perpetrators and their supporters to justice," said External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

J&K Police recording statements of locals to gather evidence

Peerzada Ashiq
PAHALGAM

Of the 3 sketches released, two suspects are believed to be Pakistani nationals

The Jammu and Kashmir Police have started recording the statements of locals who reached the attack site to collect clues on the sequence of events around the Pahalgam terror attack.

Top police officers, including Inspector-General of Police V.K. Birdi, camped in Pahalgam on Thursday. They interacted with officers of the CRPF and the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The attack site, Baisaran, remained out of bounds for tourists. Security agencies continue to scan adjoining areas of Baisaran. Tourist footfall remains scant in the region.

The J&K Police have released the sketches of three suspects, one local and two non-local terrorists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), believed to be behind the Pahalgam attack. The police have announced a reward of ₹20 lakh to anyone who provides information about their whereabouts.

According to the police, Adil Hussain Thoker, a resident of Anantnag, Ali Bhai alias Talha Bhai, and Hashim Musa alias Suleiman, both Pakistan nationals, were involved in the terrorist attack.

India to explore options it has 'never considered' under Indus Waters Treaty

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Big changes: India had announced on Wednesday that it would hold the Indus Water Treaty in abeyance. FILE PHOTO

India will explore "options that it has never considered" under the Indus Waters Treaty. This could include withdrawing from talks around evolving a new "dispute resolution mechanism", changing the design of its hydro-power electric projects to allow it to store greater quantities of water and deploying "draw down flushing" of its reservoirs, a senior official told *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity.

"As an upper riparian state, we have always been very responsible. Following the Uri attacks (in 2016) we didn't, even then, consider options outside of the IWT. But this time, it may be different," they added.

Following the Pahalgam attack, India announced on Wednesday that it would hold the treaty, in place since 1960, "in abeyance".

Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, Jal Shakti Ministry wrote a letter to Syed Ali Murtaza, Secretary, Water Resources Ministry of Pakistan on Thursday informing him that the IWT "was in abeyance." "The obligation to honour a treaty in good faith is fundamental to a treaty. However what we have seen is sustained cross border terrorism by Pakistan targeting Indian Union territory of J&K," her letter noted.

On the surface, it implies that India will stop its periodic communication with Pakistan on sharing hydrological data on the Indus rivers or keeping it apprised of infrastructure work on hydroelectric projects in the Chenab, Jhelum and the Indus main, also known as the western rivers. Even prior to the Pahalgam incident, the Permanent Indus Commission – or the teams of experts from India and Pakistan that attempt to resolve disputes regarding the sharing of the waters of the Indus basin – has not convened since 2022.

Under the terms of the treaty, India cannot create significant hydro-power storage on the western rivers and must maintain water levels at prescribed levels, to ensure that no untoward flooding or disruption of agriculture happens in Pakistan.

"For India to weaponise the waters of the Indus, it has to completely ignore the IWT. Under the current terms of the treaty, this can't be done," a scientist affiliated to the Central Water Commission.

However any significant changes will require a "techno-economic" feasibility. The location of the several projects and the terrain means that there may be significant investment required. All of these would be "long term" and will require consistent investment, said one of the persons cited earlier.

BSF scales down Beating Retreat ceremony; handshake with Pak. soldiers suspended

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI

Strict action: India has announced that it would close the Integrated Check Post in Attari with immediate effect. ANI

With India announcing that it would close the Integrated Check Post in Punjab's Attari – the land route for passenger movement between India and Pakistan – nationals from both countries were seen returning to their respective countries on Thursday.

The Border Security Force (BSF) said it had "scaled down" the Beating Retreat ceremony held at three locations - Attari, Hussainiwala, and Sadki along the Pakistan border in Punjab - in the wake of the Pahalgam attack.

The BSF's Punjab frontier said in a statement that as part of a "calibrated decision", it was "suspending" the symbolic handshake of the Indian guard commander with the Pakistan counterpart, and the border gates would remain closed during the ceremony.

These steps, it said, reflected "India's serious concern over cross-border hostilities and reaffirms that peace and provocation cannot coexist". The drill will, however, continue and common people will be allowed to witness the daily flag-lowering ceremony, a BSF official said.

An official at the Land Port Authority of India at Attari said a movement of around 125 people was registered on Thursday, which includes the arrival of around 100 people from Pakistan and the departure of 25 people from India. "On average, there is a passenger movement of 350-400 people on usual days, but today it was around 125, which is relatively less," said the official, requesting anonymity.

INBRIEF

CISF takes over security of Lengpui airport in Mizoram

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took over the security of Mizoram's Lengpui Airport on Thursday. Lengpui became the 69th airport in India to come under the protection of the national civil aviation security force. The CISF said it would work closely with local authorities and other stakeholders to develop and implement advanced security protocols that were effective, convenient and people-friendly. "These enhanced measures aim to provide passengers with a secure and seamless travel experience, while proactively addressing emerging threats such as terrorism, smuggling and other unlawful activities," it said.

LIC to expedite claim settlements of terror victims

The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) on Thursday announced that it will expedite claim settlements of Pahalgam terror attack victims in an effort to provide financial relief to their families. Expressing deep grief over the death of innocent citizens in the terrorist attack, CEO and MD Siddharta Mohanty said LIC has decided to offer concessions to mitigate the hardships of the claimants. In lieu of death certificates, any evidence in government records of death of the policyholder due to the terrorist attack or any compensation paid by the Union or State governments will be accepted as proof of death. All efforts will be taken to ensure that the claimants are reached out to and claims settled expeditiously to the affected families," he said.

SC gives approval for UGC rules to fight caste-based bias

The court says that the National Task Force formed to make recommendations to protect students from discrimination will continue and fill up any lacunae in the 2025 Regulations

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday did not agree with a plea to stall the finalisation and subsequent notification of the University Grants Commission (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions) Regulations of 2025 to counter discrimination in higher educational institutions.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and N. Kotiswar Singh was hearing an application filed by the mothers of Rohith Vemula and Payal Tadvi, represented by senior advocate Indira Jaising and advocates Prasanna S. and Disha Wadekar, to stall the notification of the 2025 Regulations until a National Task Force chaired by former Supreme Court judge, Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, formed by the apex court in a judgment on March 24 came out with its comprehensive report on mental health concerns, suicides of students and discrimination faced by them along with recommendations to counter these issues.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta objected to the submission made by Ms. Jaising, saying a meeting to finalise the 2015 Regulations was already under way on Thursday and the process of notifying them must not be stopped.

The court was hearing a plea filed by the mothers of the deceased Rohith Vemula and Payal Tadvi. NAGARA GOPAL

Ms. Jaising said there were still "grey areas", especially regarding caste discrimination, in the 2025 Regulations. She urged the court to stay the notification of the new Regulations till the Task Force recommendations came on board. Until then, Ms. Jaising said, the extant 2012 Regulations could continue to be implemented.

The court took the middle path, saying the 2025 Regulations would be notified, but the Task Force's work would not be affected by it. In fact, the Task Force would also consider the 2025 Regulations to spot any lacunae which needed to be addressed.

Once the Task Force came out with its recommendations, they would be considered and incorporated into the Regulations, if found necessary. The court gave the petitioners or anyone concerned liberty to approach the court once the Task Force recommendations came out to suggest any additions, deletions or incorporations.

"These Regulations [of 2025] will be notified and it will not affect the work of the Task Force. The Task Force recommendations can be included or the Union government may also come out with appropriate suggestions," Justice Kant observed.

The March 2025 judgement by a Coordinate Bench of the Supreme Court headed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala was based on an appeal filed by the parents of two deceased students against a January 2024 order of the Delhi High Court which refused to direct the police to register an FIR in connection with the death of two students.

While Ayush Ashna was found dead on July 8, 2023 in his hostel room, Anil Kumar was found dead on September 1, 2023 in his hostel room at the IIT, Delhi. It was alleged that both the students, who belonged to the Scheduled Castes, were murdered and they had earlier confided in their parents about caste discrimination. Ms. Jaising said she would make representations on behalf of her clients before the Task Force.

In February, the Union government had informed the apex court in an affidavit that the new set of Regulations would wipe out discrimination, especially on the basis of religion or caste. The draft Regulations, which were placed on record in the court, would give the UGC "teeth and power" to de-recognise non-compliant or misbehaving higher education institutions.

Supreme Court to examine concerns on POCSO clause

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to hear concerns flagged by senior advocate Indira Jaising that mandatory reporting of sexual activity, even if it is voluntary, under Section 19 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) is leading to the criminalisation of the young and poses a threat to the fundamental right to health of adolescent girls.

Appearing before a Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, Ms. Jaising, who is *amicus curiae* in the case along with senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, said the age of consent was raised from 16 to 18 in 2012 with the enactment of the POCSO Act. This has led to a situation when knowledge of even voluntary sexual activity between juveniles is required to be reported to the police.

Counselling is required

"Counselling and not criminalisation is required in such cases. We do not need to create an army of criminals," Ms. Jaising submitted. The senior advocate said parents, guardians, and even doctors are being penalised on the ground that they had knowledge but did not report to the police about the sexual activity.

"A doctor to whom a juvenile approaches for medical care has to report the sexual activity to the police even if she says it was voluntary. In such a situation, juveniles would turn to quacks and endanger their health," Ms. Jaising argued.

The court said Ms. Jaising has raised a "serious and relevant" issue. It scheduled a detailed hearing on May 8.

The Bench suggested taking the aid of Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati, and, if required, the Attorney-General of India on the issue.

The legislature had intended the requirement for mandatorily reporting sexual activity under Section 19 of the POCSO Act to prioritise timely intervention and protection of children.

DCGI urged to lay down stringent guidelines on use of new antibiotics

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

Infectious diseases experts have flagged the overuse of a potent antibiotic leading to it losing its efficacy, and drug resistance. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has been urged to lay down strict pathways for these newer antibiotics, so that they are not misused by practitioners.

Abdul Ghafur, infectious diseases specialist and founder of the AMR Declaration Trust, has written to Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi, DCGI, about ceftazidime-avibactam. "One of the most potent antibiotics currently available in our armamentarium is rapidly losing its efficacy due to extensive, irrational, and uncontrolled use."

Two new, powerful antibiotics are about to enter the Indian market.

The drug which was initially registered with the U.S. FDA in 2015 and approved in India three years later is a last-line antibiotic. It is to be used as targeted therapy for certain carbapenem-resistant gram-negative infections and not prescribed as a broad spectrum antibiotic.

Dr. Ghafur, however, claims it is already being misused in the community. "To overcome this resistance, aztreonam is often added to ceftazidime-avibactam, unfortunately, resistance has now emerged even to this combination, due to irrational use."

The problem, he explains, is that while the DCGI has licenced the drug, it has only provided indications for use. There are no clear-cut pathways laid out, and nothing to deter mis-prescriptions.

This trend could erode the huge gains secured in India primarily with the ban on use of colistin as a growth promotion drug amongst poultry, in recent times.

Rational use

There are two new very powerful antibiotics that are about to enter the Indian market, Cefierocol and Cefepime-zidebactam. Dr. Ghafur urges the DCGI to kick in with antibiotics stewardship: "We need these drugs in India. However, their use must be restricted strictly to infections where no other effective alternatives exist. Education alone is not enough; we need a clear regulatory pathway to ensure the rational use of these molecules from the moment they are licenced."

"If we do not act now, we risk losing the few therapeutic options left. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is already a serious crisis in our country. Without urgent and strong action, it may escalate to an unmanageable level. We cannot change the past – but we still have time to act for the immediate future," he says.

Interactive workshop for teens to offer emotional resilience training

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

In an era where adolescents navigate academic pressure, evolving social dynamics, and personal development, MiTran Global is set to host a structured, two-day online programme aimed at equipping students with clarity, confidence, and emotional resilience.

Titled the 'Imparting Positivity' camp, the interactive experience is scheduled for April 26 and 27.

Designed for students aged 11 to 17, the initiative blends academic focus with emotional empowerment, offering participants tools to sharpen their focus and overcome limiting beliefs.

Limited to 25 students per batch, the sessions aim to provide individual attention within a safe and engaging learning environment.

The curriculum is divided into two key modules – 'Breaking Barriers' and 'Sharpening Focus'.

The Breaking Barriers module encourages students to identify and overcome self-sabotaging beliefs, reframe personal fears, transform peer pressure into strength, and build emotional resilience in the face of criticism.

The Sharpening Focus module addresses productivity and cognitive clarity. Participants learn strategies to manage distractions and apply the 80/20 principle to optimise learning. Students will also identify their dominant learning styles and engage in mental warm-ups to enhance concentration.

In addition to group sessions, the camp includes a one-on-one coaching interaction to help students internalise key takeaways and apply them in their academic and personal lives. Parents will also receive insights into their child's mindset, learning preferences, and potential growth areas.

The camp offers two time slots each day – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. – allowing students to choose the session most convenient for them. Priced at ₹1,999, the programme includes a comprehensive workbook, a certificate of participation, and a bonus for early registrants. The first 11 participants to sign up will receive a complimentary copy of the book *I Love Exams*.

Each session will conclude with a formal graduation ceremony, while post-camp mentoring aims to help students sustain the progress made during the programme.

Registrations can be completed at hub.mitranglobal.com/services/ipc and further details are available at 74832 62507.

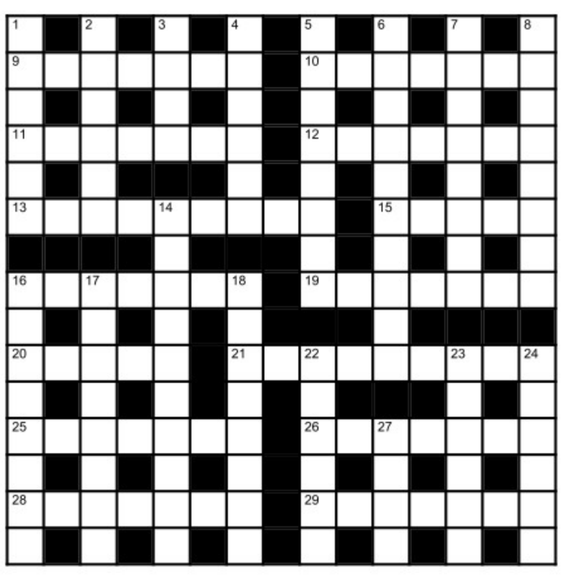
The Hindu In School is the official media partner for the event.

TH CROSSWORD + 14468

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

9 Real-time construction (wasting money) of a studio (7)
10 One at the very beginning orders; club has commotion to supply fruit (7)
11 First two characters and first officer beginning to negotiate with carelessness (7)
12 Beginner seen in hospital ward shouting (7)
13 Insight gained in teaching (9)
15 Artist is primarily engaging the breed (5)
16 Stateside server has merit (7)
19 Muscle displayed in second page at school (7)
20 Police officer drunk in break (5)
21 Female's menu disregards men, (European) in the plant (9)
25 Brag about return of investment, otherwise rest (7)
26 One month to receive offer for capital (7)
28 Coder set out to buy gold at Erode (7)
29 General's note on regular duel on a type of wave (3,4)

Down

1 Nothing seen during South Africa, Rhode Island trip (6)
2 A rule introduced in department for leave (6)
3 Penny in exotic dress at the inauguration but it's patchy in colour (4)
4 British heir essentially succeeded to lead country (6)
5 Fruit of filbert seen in mist, left by a mad man (8)
6 New actors before the bell are appearing together (2-8)
7 Drone seen at soldier's location (8)
8 It's futile to get footwear for a fewer amount (8)
14 Rita's note in press creates displeasure (10)
16 Deputy Inspector from the beginning is stern in territory (8)
17 A group of fighters traded biyearly regularly (8)
18 English army in New Delhi entrance executed (8)
22 More or less, listener could follow nationalist lady without substance (6)
23 Enjoying dismissal of unknown girl by order (6)
24 Founder gathers news on doghouse (6)
27 Fancy half idli with meat essentially (4)

SUDOKU

	2						5	3
5		8		7			9	1
			4			2		
6	5			1	4			
			9	6			1	4
		9			6			
1	4			2		7		9
2	8						3	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

No.SS6500 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

C	C	P	K	N	L	P	R	
A	V	A	R	I	C	E	A	C	E	T	A	T	E
R	N	L	T	R	M	L	S	
E	V	I	D	E	N	T	C	H	O	C	I	C	E
S	N	L	O	N	N	T	
S	U	G	A	R	B	E	E	T	S	T	O	U	T
O	I	O	D	L	
B	U	S	S	T	O	P	C	O	L	L	E	G	E
A	T	I	I	E	
C	H	A	O	S	C	O	L	D	S	N	A	P	S
K	R	S	K	O	C	T	
R	E	L	I	E	V	E	C	A	S	H	I	E	R
E	I	R	R	U	N	D	E	
S	U	N	R	I	S	E	S	T	A	B	I	L	E
T	G	E	L	T	P	C	T	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	2	1	3	8	4	9	7	6
8	9	3	7	6	5	1	2	4
6	4	7	2	1	9	5	8	3
9	6	8	1	7	3	2	4	5
7	1	2	4	5	6	8	3	9
4	3	5	9	2	8	7	6	1
2	8	4	6	9	1	3	5	7
3	5	9	8	4	7	6	1	2
1	7	6	5	3	2	4	9	8

FAITH

Thripunnithura's Andal

Devotion has many forms. Some follow rituals austerely, some visit temples every day while a few internalise their devotion and pray to be accepted by Him. He unfailingly comes to the aid of the sincere devotee, said P. Swaminathan in a discourse.

We all know the devotion of Andal from Srivilliputtur. Similarly, Nangema from Vadakkedathu Illam in Thripunnithura, Kerala, was a staunch devotee of Malavan (Perumal). Endowed with great beauty, she spent all her time on Malavan. She personally picked fragrant flowers from her garden and offered them to the deity. As time passed, Nangema began to converse with the deity, in an outpouring of total devotion.

As she grew into a nubile girl and the family began to speak of her marriage, she became agitated and said she would only marry Malavan. Her family initially laughed it off as a childish devotion and focused on finding a suitable boy for her.

Seeing that her family was in earnest, the devotee turned to the Lord even more. When a young man from a well to do family was chosen for her, the girl prayed fervently. Nothing happened and the day of the wedding was upon them. The groom's procession was arriving and they all went to the temple to pray to the Lord. Decked as a bride, the girl, surrounded by her friends in the sanctum sanctorum, imagining Perumal as her bridegroom beseeched Him saying, "Why won't you accept me?"

It is said that the next minute, the Lord emerged from the idol, garlanded her and taking her hand, led her into the inner sanctum.

INBRIEF

NSE tightens norms for SMEs to migrate to mainboard

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has tightened norms for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) listed with them to migrate to the mainboard, according to a circular released on Thursday. Among other conditions, NSE will now allow only those SMEs with an operating profit of more than ₹100 crore in the previous fiscal and positive operating profit for two of three fiscals to move to the mainboard. The new criteria will be in operation from May 1, 2025.

Laurus Labs net up ₹234 cr. on higher CDMO revenue

Drugmaker Laurus Labs reported consolidated net profit for the March quarter surged to ₹233.87 crore from ₹75.32 crore a year earlier on a 19% increase in the revenue. Revenue from operations for the fourth quarter rose to ₹1,720.30 crore (₹1,439.67 crore) boosted by 85% increase in CDMO business revenue to ₹490 crore (₹265 crore). The company's board has declared an interim dividend of ₹0.80 per equity share of ₹2 each.

Vodafone Idea ropes in Cisco to boost 4G, 5G services

Vodafone Idea has entered into a partnership with Cisco, a player in networking and security, to transform its network infrastructure, enhance agility, efficiency, and scalability to improve network quality and customer experience. Vi would deploy a cutting-edge multiprotocol label switching (MPLS)-based transport network powered by Cisco. By integrating Cisco's MPLS solution, Vi said it would bolster reliability and robustness of its network infrastructure.

Jolted by U.S. tariffs, stainless steel players turn to local market

Exports gone haywire due to lack of clarity at all ends, rue producers; fear of dumping by China a big concern for domestic manufacturers

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Hit by the U.S. tariff action, the Indian stainless steel industry is looking domestically to absorb a bulk of their production that was earmarked for exports to the U.S.

Due to confusion and lack of clarity, exports of stainless steel have been impacted, with the industry finding new ways to deal with the situation. Though U.S. President Donald Trump has paused the reciprocal tariff for 90 days, the 25% tariff imposed on steel and aluminium imports, announced days before, still exists. "When it comes to tariff, it has made a massive impact for our company and the industry in general. There's no clarity because things are changing dramatically every single day. There is no clarity from the customer end or from our end. So, it has led to a global shift in steel trade," Yash Mehta, CEO, Rajputana Stainless Ltd. Told *The Hindu*.

"The tariffs may change and the fear of tariffs changing is causing instability. For now, the challenge is the uncertainty in the mind of both the customers and the vendors, which is India and America for now. Since the last 15 to 20 days, there is silence or probably we would say there is no real business conversation happening with America. So, we see a little pause as of now," he added. "And the second concern for Indian market is dumping, because China, being the biggest manufacturer of steel, will definitely try to dump into countries like India, which is again a massive concern for Indian stainless steel manufacturers," he pointed out.

Mr. Mehta said 10-15% of his company's production was directly or indirectly exported to the U.S. Now, he said, he was looking at the domestic market to utilise that capacity.

"It [volume earmarked for U.S. market] is going to be mostly consumed in the domestic market and the Middle East market which is pretty decent. The dumping by China to be one fear, we will have the full picture in the next three to four months," he said. Industry players said they would deliberate on these subjects at the GSSE Summit which is scheduled in June, 2025 to deal with the situation.

A segment of the industry believes that the U.S. would continue to import at high duty as they do not have any immediate manufacturing capacity coming up to meet their own consumption.

The domestic demand for stainless steel is rising steadily because of search for sustainable materials. It is increasingly being used in railways, infrastructure projects and processing industries.

"The demand for stainless steel is definitely on the rise. Various private and government sector projects are increasingly using stainless steel," said C.P. Mangal, Director, Mangalam Worldwide Ltd.

Market demand: Stainless steel is increasingly being used in railways, infra projects and processing industries. FILE PHOTO

HUL Q4 net profit slides 3% to ₹2,475 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A final dividend of ₹24 per share for the financial year ended March 31, 2025 has been recommended

Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) major Hindustan Unilever Ltd. (HUL) reported fourth quarter consolidated net profit declined 3.35% to ₹2,475 crore from ₹2,561 crore in the year-earlier period.

Total consolidated sales grew 3% year on year (YoY) to ₹15,446 crore.

The company's lower margin and subdued volumes led to its stock facing selling pressure in the market, closing at a loss of 4% at ₹2,325.25 on the BSE.

For FY25 the company's net profit grew 4% to ₹10,671 crore from ₹10,282 crore in the previous year. Total sales grew 2% YoY to ₹62,288 crore.

On a standalone basis, the company's Q4 net profit grew 4% YoY to ₹2,493 crore. The board recommended a final dividend of ₹24 per share for the financial year ended March 31, 2025. HUL said it had completed the acquisition of 90.5% of shareholding of Uprising Science Private Ltd. for ₹2,706 crore.

Tech Mahindra Q4 net profit soars 76%

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tech Mahindra, the technology arm of the Mahindra Group, on Thursday posted a 76.5% year-on-year growth in fourth-quarter net profit to ₹ 1,167 crore from ₹661 crore in the corresponding year-earlier period.

The profit jump was largely because of an 'overall operating profitability improvement' resulting also from an effective tax rate that came a little lower due to some tax benefits for the quarter as one-off and hence the profitability grew by quarter-on-quarter 130 basis points versus 40 that the EBIT grew on, the company said.

Mohit Joshi

"Our deal wins were at $2.7 billion, reflecting a 42% year-on-year increase and are a clear validation of the depth of our client partnerships," said Mohit Joshi, CEO and MD, Tech Mahindra.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	79,801	-0.39
US Dollar	85.33	0.14
Gold	99,400	0.20
Brent oil	66.51	1.12

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2442.50	-11.10
Adani Ports	1236.40	-2.70
Apollo Hosp	7159.50	17.50
Asian Paints	2464.40	11.30
Axis Bank	1207.10	0.20
Bajaj Auto	8201.50	-60.00
Bajaj Finserv	2105.00	4.20
Bajaj Finance	9301.00	-22.00
Bharat Elec	305.70	-0.15
Bharti Airtel	1845.60	-36.00
Cipla	1551.70	18.00
Coal India	399.85	0.90
Dr Reddys Lab	1200.50	14.50
Eicher Motors	5650.50	-89.50
Eternal Ltd.	236.38	-2.86
Grasim Ind	2729.20	43.60
HCL Tech	1586.70	-7.30
HDFC Bank	1916.80	-7.10
HDFC Life	708.40	-0.70
Hero MotoCorp	3954.50	14.00
Hindalco	628.35	-0.75
Hind Unilever	2325.30	-98.50
ICICI Bank	1402.70	-21.70
IndusInd Bank	819.75	25.55
Infosys	1471.40	-3.50
ITC	430.05	-0.80
Jio Financial Servic-es Ltd.	258.78	0.64
JSW Steel	1044.50	5.30
Kotak Bank	2223.00	-4.00
L&T	3300.60	-0.40
M&M	2901.40	-16.40
Maruti Suzuki	11894.00	-13.00
NestleIndia	2433.20	-0.20
NTPC	363.20	-0.60
ONGC	249.37	-2.80
PowerGrid Corp	314.40	-0.55
Reliance Ind	1301.60	1.60
SBI Life	1608.20	-7.30
State Bank	813.40	-0.05
Shriram Finance Ltd.	696.65	-7.25
Sun Pharma	1803.90	15.10
TataConsumerPro-duct	1161.30	11.20
Tata Motors	668.35	8.45
Tata Steel	141.52	0.36
TCS	3401.60	-11.40
Tech Mahindra	1445.20	5.60
Titan	3382.60	25.30
Trent Ltd.	5323.50	-5.50
UltraTech Cement	12159.00	210.00
Wipro	242.75	-0.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on April 24

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.06	85.38
Euro	96.88	97.25
British Pound	113.26	113.70
Japanese Yen (100)	59.74	59.97
Chinese Yuan	11.67	11.72
Swiss Franc	103.16	103.56
Singapore Dollar	64.88	65.13
Canadian Dollar	61.42	61.67
Malaysian Ringitt	19.44	19.54
Australian Dollar	54.33	54.54

Source:Indian Bank

Cyient Q4 net profit declines over 5% to ₹186.4 crore

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Intelligent engineering and technology solutions provider Cyient's consolidated net profit for the quarter ended March declined more than 5% to ₹186.4 crore from ₹196.9 crore a year earlier.

The lower net profit came on a more than 3% increase in the total income to ₹1,950.2 crore (₹1,884.2 crore).

In a release, Cyient said during the quarter its Digital, Engineering, and Technology (DET) segment revenue declined 1.2% at ₹1,472 crore, while net profit at ₹163 crore was a year on year de-growth of 6%.

The company has declared a final dividend of ₹14 per share (par value of ₹5 each) for 2024-25.

Axis Bank Q4 net slips to ₹7,118 crore; ₹1 dividend approved

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Axis Bank Ltd., the third largest private sector bank, reported a marginal decline in net profit for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2025 at ₹7,117.50 crore from ₹7,130 crore in the year-ago period.

Net interest income (NII) for the quarter grew 6% YoY to ₹13,811 crore. Net interest margin (NIM) stood at 3.97%. Axis Bank's board recommended a dividend of ₹1 per equity share of face value ₹2 for the year ended March 31, 2025.

The board has approved raising of funds by issuance of debt instruments up to an amount of ₹35,000 crore.

It also approved raising of funds by issuance of equity shares/depository receipts and/or any other instruments up to an amount of ₹20,000 crore.

The board approved an increase in borrowing limit of up to ₹3 lakh crore. REUTERS

The board also approved an increase in borrowing limit of up to ₹3 lakh crore.

Provision and contingencies for the quarter stood at ₹1,359 crore

ACC Ltd. Q4 net profit declines 20.4% to ₹751 crore

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Cement maker ACC Ltd. on Wednesday reported a 20.4% decline in consolidated net profit to ₹751.04 crore in the March quarter.

The company had posted a profit of ₹943.39 crore in the year-ago period, according to a regulatory filing from ACC, which is now a part of Adani Cement. Revenue from operations was at ₹5,991.67 crore, up 12.7% in the March quarter. It was at ₹5,316.75 crore in the corresponding period a year ago. Total expenses in the March quarter were at ₹5,514.82 crore, up 13.11%.

During the March quarter, ACC's revenue from the cement business was at ₹5,685.53 crore, an increase of 11.14%.

Lupin's Tolvaptan tablets get U.S. FDA nod

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Generic drugmaker Lupin has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval for Tolvaptan tablets of different strengths.

It is the exclusive first-to-file for this product and consequently eligible for 180 days of generic drug exclusivity. The product will be manufactured at its Nagpur facility and unveiled soon, Lupin said on Thursday.

The approved product is bio-equivalent to Otsuka Pharmaceutical Company's Jynarque Tablets 15 mg, 30 mg, 45 mg, 60 mg, and 90 mg. Tolvaptan is indicated to slow kidney function decline in adults at risk of rapidly progressing autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease.

Tolvaptan tablets had an estimated annual sale of $1,467 million in the U.S. during 2024. CEO Vinita Gupta said the development marks "a significant entry into the nephrology segment" for the company.

Rajasthan Council of School Education
S. Radha Krishnan Shiksha Sankul, 5th Block, IInd & IIIrd Floor, JNL Marg., Jaipur - 17
Ph.: 0141-2700366, E-Mail- rajssa_acctt@yahoo.co.in
No. : F. 7 ( ) RCScE/Actt./Printing Work/ 2025-26/14817931 Dated :- 21/04/2025
Notice Inviting Bid (NIB: 01 /2025-26)
E-Bids are invited from eligible bidders for Various types of Printing Work and supply rate contract including ABL Kits, Workbook etc up to 06 p.m. dated 20/05/2025 Details may be seen in the Bidding Document at the office of the RCScE Jaipur, **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** and department website **www.rajsmsa.nic.in**
UBN : RSE2526GLRC00050
Est. Amount : Rs. 100.00 Crore (including GST)
Raj.Samwad/C/25/1224
State Project Director RCScE, Jaipur

CENTRAL MINE PLANNING AND DESIGN INSTITUTE LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi - 834008, Jharkhand, India
NOTICE
"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. **www.coalindia.in**/respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, **www.cmpdi.co.in)**, CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in.** In addition, procurement is also done through GeM Portal **https://gem.gov.in.**''

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
क्रमांक: 91 दिनांक: 09.04.2025
संशोधित निविदा सूचना संख्या-24/2025-25
इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 3358 दिनांक 12.03.2025 एवं संशोधित पत्रांक 3433 दिनांक 21.03.2025 के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा संख्या 24/2024-25 में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र. सं.	पूर्व में	अब यह पढ़ा जावे
1	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख **24.03.2025 से 15.04.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख **24.03.2025 से 30.04.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**
2	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख **24.03.2025 से 15.04. 2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख **24.03.2025 से 30.04.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**
3	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख **17.04.2025 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे** तक	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख **02.05.2025 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक**
4	बिड सिक्योरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)- [02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-ग्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 15.04. 2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशासी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. नगर खण्ड कोटा** के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है या एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई-ग्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 में एवं RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर चैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी से भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 16.04.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक Certificate of Correctness of bid documents शपथ पत्र रु. 1000/- स्टाम्प पर, ई-ग्रास चालान, बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।	बिड सिक्योरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)- [02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-ग्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 30.04.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशासी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. नगर खण्ड कोटा** के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है या एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई-ग्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 में एवं RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर चैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी से भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 01.05.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक Certificate of Correctness of bid documents शपथ पत्र रु. 1000/- स्टाम्प पर, ई-ग्रास चालान, बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।
UBN No.: PWD2425WL0B16944
डीआईपीआर/सी/5086/2025
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
संशोधित निविदा सूचना संख्या-26/2024-25
इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 3453 दिनांक 24.03.2025 के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना संख्या-26/2024-25 में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र. सं.	पूर्व में	अब यह पढ़ा जावे
1	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख **03.04.2025 से 22.04.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख **03.04.2025 से 02.05.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**
2	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख **03.04.2025 से 22.04.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख **03.04.2025 से 02.05.2025, सायं 6.00 बजे तक**
3	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख **24.04.2025 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे** तक	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख **06.05.2025 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे तक**
4	बिड सिक्योरिटी, (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-ग्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 22.04.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशासी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. खण्ड रामगंज मण्डी** के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है या एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई-ग्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 में एवं RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर चैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी से भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 23.04.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक Certificate of Correctness of bid documents शपथ पत्र रु. 1000/- स्टाम्प पर, ई-ग्रास चालान, बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।	बिड सिक्योरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्यों हेतु बजट मद 8443-00-108-00-00 (निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई-ग्रास पर ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 02.05.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशासी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. खण्ड रामगंजमण्डी** के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है या एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई-ग्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075-00-800-52-01 में एवं **RISL** शुल्क रु. 2500/- बजट मद 8658-00-102-(16)-[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर चैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी से भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 05.05.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक Certificate of Correctness of bid documents शपथ पत्र रु. 1000/- स्टाम्प पर, ई-ग्रास चालान, बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।
UBN No.: PWD2425WL0B17318
डीआईपीआर/सी/5115/2025
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा

T.N. weaving clusters expect cheaper Chinese rayon yarn amid U.S. tariffs

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

At Palladam, located 40 km from Coimbatore, weavers who produce rayon fabrics are looking forward to yarn that costs ₹8 to ₹10 per kg less than what is available in the market now. Powerloom weavers in Erode district, who also produce rayon fabric, are similarly hopeful.

With U.S. President Donald Trump imposing a 145% tariff on Chinese goods, Chinese viscose is expected to be available at the weaving clusters in T.N. at prices lower than the yarn spun at textile mills.

Landed cost of Chinese viscose yarn had dropped to ₹185.06 on April 23. FILE PHOTO

Govindaraj of the Shuttleless Loom Cloth Manufacturers Association told *The Hindu* that several traders have booked Chinese yarn, that weavers expect at ₹8 per kg lower than Indian yarn. However, the weavers will not receive a credit period for payment and must purchase large quantities. So, the price difference will be around ₹4 per kg less than Indian yarn. He noted this situation will impact viscose textile mills.

Velusamy, President of the Palladam Job Working Powerloom Unit Owners Association, said imported yarn is likely to arrive after a month, since traders have just begun placing orders. While small weavers may lack the resources to import directly, large weaving units are expected to take advantage of the price differential.

Landed cost of Chinese viscose yarn had dropped from ₹192.17 per kg on April 1 to ₹185.06 on April 23, while yarn produced in India costs ₹197 per kg.

Viscose yarn producing textile mills have called for restrictions on Chinese yarn imports and demanded the removal of QCO on viscose fibre or levy of the QCO norms on yarn too.

BEIJING

China, Kenya pledge to upgrade ties to 'new level', oppose tariffs

AFP

China and Kenya upgraded ties to a "new level" on Thursday, pledging to reject trade barriers and support the World Trade Organization. The countries signed 20 agreements on infrastructure, education, and technology. Kenya remains a key Belt and Road partner, despite heavy debt. AFP

SEOUL

'DeepSeek transferred user data to Chinese company without consent'

REUTERS

South Korea's data authority found on Thursday Chinese AI app DeepSeek transferred user data, including AI prompts, to Beijing's Volcano Engine without consent. The app was suspended in South Korea pending review. DeepSeek admitted shortcomings and pledged cooperation, as other countries also raised concerns. AFP

MANILA

Signs of China poll interference, says Philippine security agency

AP

The Philippines' National Security Council said on Thursday there are indications China is conducting "state-sponsored" information operations to interfere in next month's midterm polls, amplifying Beijing's narratives through local proxies and targeting anti-China candidates, especially via social media campaigns. AFP

JIUQUAN

China launches three astronauts to replace crew on its space station

REUTERS

China launched three astronauts aboard Shenzhou-20 spaceship to the Tiangong space station for a six-month mission, replacing the current crew. The mission supports China's lunar and Mars ambitions, with astronauts conducting science experiments and maintenance tasks on the fully Chinese-built station. AP

Israeli strike on Gaza kills 44, including a family of six

A couple and their four children were killed when their home was hit; since Israel resumed its attacks, 1,978 people have been killed in Gaza, raising the total toll to 51,355 since the war began

Agence France-Presse
GAZA CITY

Critical hit: Rescuers search through the debris following an Israeli air strike on a residential building in Gaza City on Thursday. AP

Gaza rescue teams and medics said Israeli air strikes killed at least 44 people on Thursday, including a family of six whose home was struck in Gaza City.

Israel resumed its military offensive in the Gaza Strip on March 18, following the collapse of a two-month ceasefire that had brought a temporary halt to fighting in the blockaded Palestinian territory.

Six members of one family – a couple and their four children – were killed when an air strike levelled their home in northern Gaza City, the civil defence said in a statement.

Nidal al-Sarafiti, a relative of the family, said the strike was carried out when the family was sleeping.

"What can I say? The destruction has spared no one," he said.

Ten people were killed and several wounded in another strike on a former police station in the Jabalia area of northern Gaza, according to a statement from the Indonesian hospital where the casualties were brought.

The military said it struck a Hamas "command and control centre" in the Jabalia area but did not specify whether the target was the police station. "The command and control centre was used by the terrorists to plan and execute terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians and IDF troops," it said.

Elsewhere, five people died when the tents they had sought refuge in were hit.

Three people were killed, including a child, in the town of Zuwaida in central Gaza, the civil defence said in a statement.

Another two people were killed in a strike on a home in the southern city of Khan Younis.

"We were sitting in peace when the missile fell.. I just don't understand ... what's happening," said Mohammed Faris, who witnessed the strike on the house.

Since Israel resumed its military operations, at least 1,978 people have been killed in Gaza, raising the total death toll to at least 51,355 since the war began, according to the Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza.

The war was ignited by a Hamas-led attack on Israel in 2023, which resulted in the deaths of 1,218 people, mostly civilians, according to a tally based on official Israeli figures.

U.K. ends sanctions on two Syrian Ministries

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

The U.K. government announced on Thursday it was lifting sanctions that were imposed on Syria's Interior and Defence Ministries during the rule of the now-deposed Bashar al-Assad.

"The following entries have been removed from the Consolidated List and are no longer subject to an asset freeze – Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defence," the Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation said in a notice.

Sanctions against various media groups and intelligence agencies were also lifted, although Syria's new rulers dissolved the Assad-era spy bodies in January.

Those targeted by the sanctions were "involved in repressing the civilian population in Syria" or had been "involved in supporting or benefitting from the Syrian regime", said the notice.

No ongoing talks with U.S. over tariffs, says Beijing

Associated Press
BANGKOK

China on Thursday denied U.S. President Donald Trump's assertion that the two sides were involved in active negotiations over tariffs, saying that any suggestion of progress in this matter was as groundless as "trying to catch the wind".

China's comments come after Mr. Trump said on Tuesday that the final tariff rate on China's exports would come down "substantially" from the current 145%.

"China's position is consistent and we are open to consultations and dialogues, but any form of consultations and negotiations must be conducted on the basis of mutual respect and in an equal manner," said Ministry of Commerce spokesperson He Yadong. "Any claims about the progress of China-U.S. trade negotiations are groundless as trying to catch the wind and have no factual basis."

Xi Jinping

Mr. Trump had told reporters earlier in the week that "everything's active" when asked if he was engaging with China, although his Treasury Secretary had said there were no formal negotiations.

Mr. Trump had put 145% tariffs on imports from China, while China hit back with 125% tariffs on U.S. products. While Mr. Trump has given other countries a 90-day pause on the tariffs, as their leaders pledged to negotiate with the U.S., China remained the exception. Instead, Beijing raised its own tariffs and deployed other economic measures in response while vowing to "fight to the end". For example, China restricted exports of rare earth minerals and raised multiple cases against the U.S. at the World Trade Organization.

China also made it clear that talks should involve the cancellation of all tariffs it currently faces.

"The unilateral tariff increase measures were initiated by the United States. If the United States really wants to solve the problem, it should face up to the rational voices of the international community and all parties at home, completely cancel all unilateral tariff measures against China, and find ways to resolve differences through equal dialogue," said Mr. He, the spokesperson.

Despite the economic measures levelled against China, Mr. Trump said on Tuesday that he would be "very nice" and not play hardball with Chinese President Xi Jinping. "We're going to live together very happily and ideally work together," Mr. Trump said.

Sri Lanka Opposition seeks details of India defence MoU

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Friendly ties: Narendra Modi with Anura Kumara Dissanayake during a state visit to Sri Lanka earlier this month. PTI

Amid persisting questions from the political opposition and media about Sri Lanka's recent defence sector Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India, the government has asked those seeking more information to use the country's Right To Information (RTI) Act.

Addressing a media briefing earlier this week, Cabinet spokesperson Nalinda Jayatissa said some of the contents of the MoU cannot be released without India's consent. The political opposition, including the main opposition bloc Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), has accused the Anura Kumara Dissanayake administration of "secrecy" and demanded that the MoUs signed with India be tabled in Parliament.

The MoU pertaining to the defence sector was one of seven signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Sri Lanka from April 4 to 6. Others spanned areas such as energy cooperation, digital initiatives, and health. During the visit, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri told media persons the defence sector MoU is an "umbrella agreement" providing a framework to pursue ongoing defence sector cooperation in a more "structured" manner.

In his statement during the visit, Mr. Modi said he was "grateful to President Dissanayake for his sensitivity towards India's interests." "We believe that we have shared security interests. The security of both countries is interconnected and co-dependent."

Retired civil servant Austin Fernando, who has served as Secretary to the Ministry of Defence and as Sri Lanka's High Commissioner to India, observed "Indian defence interests were exposed" in Mr. Modi's remarks. "Do we share the much-critiqued 'Akhanda Bharat' concept? Do we endorse Indian- Russian- American- Israeli security and defence interlinks as ours too? Do we connect with Sino-Indian clashes? We may have reservations," he wrote in a recent newspaper column. Some other columnists argued that the MoU signalled a possible shift from the government's "non-aligned" foreign policy.

'Not a pact'

The scrutiny of the MoU began in Sri Lanka even before Mr. Modi arrived in Colombo. Ahead of the state visit, Indian media reported that "a major defence pact" or "key defence deal" was to be signed with Sri Lanka, triggering scepticism among media commentators in Colombo.

The spotlight has only grown after the visit. Addressing a rally in the southern town of Galle days after Mr. Modi's visit, President Dissanayake said the defence MoU signed with India "simply formalises ongoing joint operations and training sessions with India". Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath clarified that it was a "non-binding MoU", and not a "pact".

An official source from Sri Lanka, familiar with the bilateral discussions on the MoU, told *The Hindu*: "Sri Lanka has nothing to worry about. As far as India is concerned, there has been a lot of baggage from its earlier interventions" – a reference to the role of the Indian Peace Keeping Force and Operation Poomalai, carried out by the Indian Air Force to airdrop food in Jaffna, in the late 1980s. "Now it is time to move on, considering the strategic realities of today," the source said.

France's Macron seeks 'forgiveness' for colonialism

Agence France-Presse
ANTANANARIVO

President Emmanuel Macron said on Thursday during a visit to Madagascar he wanted to work toward "forgiveness" for France's colonisation of the Indian Ocean island, including with the return of cultural artifacts.

"Our presence here is not innocent, and our history has been written... with deeply painful pages," Mr. Macron said during a remembrance ceremony at the former royal palace in the capital, Antananarivo.

"Only you can make this journey of forgiveness," he said after a visit of the palace with Princess Fenosoa Ralandison Ratsimamanga.

Emmanuel Macron

"But we are creating the conditions for it, by making it possible... to mourn what is no longer."

Mr. Macron highlighted the planned return of various cultural items taken from the island by its French occupiers, including the skull of a king decapitated in 1897 by French troops and taken to France as a trophy.

The fifth-largest island in the world, known for its rich biodiversity and natural resources but burdened by high poverty, Madagascar was under French colonial rule from the 19th century until 1960, when it gained full independence.

Mr. Macron called for a collaboration between historians from both countries so that "truth, memory, history and reconciliation can see the light of day".

ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Lenin Center, Governerpet, Vijayawada – 520002
Ph: 0866-2527110, Email: recruitment@apcrda.org
Rc.No.MAU61-OPCS0APPT/2/2025-HR, Dt.23-04-2025
EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION No.08/2025
Notification is hereby issued for filling up the post of **Environment Specialist 02 Nos**. in APCRDA, Vijayawada on contract basis. Online application is available in the APCRDA website in careers tab and can be submitted from **dt. 25.04.2025 to dt. 09.05.2025**. For further details, please visit **https://crda.ap.gov.in**
Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA,Vijayawada.

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise - Navratna)
CIN : L74899DL1999GOI101707
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER: GGM/SZ invites E-Tender (Through two bids system) for setting up of Refreshment Room (RR), Food Plaza (FP) & Fast-Food Unit (FFU) at Railway stations over Southern Railway.

Sl. No.	Unit type	E-Tender no.	Sale of Tender	Last Date & time for Submission of E-Tender
1.	RR	SZ/NIT/RR/2025/01	25.04.2025	16.05.2025 at 15:00 hrs.
2	FP & FFU	SZ/NIT/FP-FFU/2025/02	25.04.2025	16.05.2025 at 15:00 hrs.

Tender document downloading & participation can be done on website: **< www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC >**
In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on IRCTC's website **< www.irctc.com >**

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
MARINE DEPARTMENT
No. MD/ACCTS/WK/R-08/2025/548 Date: 22/04/2025
Name of the Work : Hiring of 01 no. 50 Ton Bollard Pull Tug along with Manning Crew for Marine Operations at SPMs and inside Harbour at Paradip Port for a period of 02 (Two) years & extendable for 01 (One) more year.
Estimated cost put to tender : Total estimated cost including Hire Charges & Fuel Cost: Rs.33,90,94,490/- excluding GST.
Estimated cost put to Tender towards Hire Charges only Rs.17,46,16,000/- excluding GST.
Last date & time of submission of tender through on-line bidding is **15:30 Hours on 15/05/2025.**
Date & time for opening of Technical Bid is **15:30 hours on dt.16/05/2025.**
For further details, please log on to the Website: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app**
PPA/PR/07/2025-2026 24/04/2025
Sd/- **Deputy Conservator Paradip Port Authority**

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit - 1 : Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist.
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Unit - 2 : Mondipatti - 621 306, Trichy District,
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04332 - 261600.
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Scope of Work	Due date
252613 000510	Manufacture and Supply of Stainless Steel (SS) Pipes for RSPS#2 Project at TNPL Unit - I.	16.05.2025
252613 000511	Manufacture and Supply of Carbon Steel (CS) Pipes & Fittings for RSPS#2 Project at TNPL Unit - I.	26.05.2025
252613 000524	Procurement of Direct Drive Motor for Paper Machine #3 dryer cylinder.	05.05.2025
252623 000235	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp Softwood 70 - High Yield Pulp (BCTMP SW 70) for Unit - II.	09.05.2025
252623 000236	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp Softwood 70 - Brightness FSC Mix (BCTMP SW 70) for Unit - II.	15.05.2025
252623 000187	Procurement of Descaling Agent for Continuous Digester for Pulp Mill of TNPL Unit - II	09.05.2025
252623 000188	Procurement of Sodium Sulphate (In Jumbo Bags) for SRP of TNPL Unit - II.	09.05.2025
Email	252613000510 ; 0511 - pmd8@tnpl.co.in 252613000524 - purchase.elec@tnpl.co.in 252623000235 ; 0236 - purchase.pulp@tnpl.co.in 252623000187 ; 0188 - purchaserm.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/1674/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

BRIC - National Brain Research Centre
(An Institute of the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council, Govt. of India)
NH-08, Manesar - 122 052 (Haryana), INDIA
Revised Advertisement- Admissions to Ph.D. (Neuroscience) programme -2025
NBRC invites applications for admission to a residential and full-time Ph.D. (Neuroscience) programme. The degree will be granted by Regional Centre for Biotechnology, Haryana.
NBRC admits students with diverse academic backgrounds that include various branches of Life Sciences, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics, Medicine, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Psychology, Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Communications Engineering, Computer Science and Information Technology.
Ph.D. Programme
Candidates need to qualify Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) examinations in selected subjects conducted by CSIR/UGC/DBT/ICMR/UGC-NET/NBHM. Candidates should have valid qualification on/after **Dec 2023, whose last date of validity should not be earlier than 31st March, 2026** for activation of the respective fellowship.
Candidates who have qualified GATE-2023/GATE-2024 or JGEEBILS-2024 or JEST-2024 should also qualify for a fellowship from CSIR/UGC/DBT/ICMR/UGC-NET/NBHM/JRFET and should be eligible to receive fellowships from the respective agencies.
Those who have already applied through the portal need to apply afresh as the earlier application will not be considered. For refund of the fees already paid, kindly visit the website and fill the google doc form for refund of full application fees already paid.
For detailed information for admission through each of the above qualifying examination, please visit our website: **http://www.nbrc.ac.in/html/nbrc/index.html**
For any other admission-related queries, send email to **admissions@nbrc.ac.in**
IMPORTANT DATES

1.	NBRC Online application opens:	21st April 2025
2.	Last date for receiving application at NBRC for Ph.D programme:	31st May 2025
3.	Tentative Interview date:	June 2025

NEW JOB

There's room for improvement: Fleming on CSK's new No. 4

R. RAGU

CSK coach Stephen Fleming talked about Ravindra Jadeja's struggles tackling spinners while batting up the order. "Yeah, there's a lot of room for improvement in our view. It's an opportunity. He's done it for a couple of games in the past, but hasn't had a big run at it. And it's more [about] his attitude towards it".

LEADING FROM THE FRONT

Hardik constantly keeps the troops motivated, says Boult

K.V.S. GIRI

Fresh off his four-wicket haul in the win against SRH, Trent Boult showered Hardik Pandya with praise, stating that the skipper has played a key role in MI's rise to the third spot. "Hardik is one of my favourite Indian cricketers. He is very passionate about his game and he constantly keeps the troops motivated," he said.

TURNING IT AROUND

'Rohit's doing a fantastic job of late and will play a huge role for us'

K.V.S. GIRI

"The whole Mumbai Indians squad possesses some world-class players and obviously Rohit (Sharma) needs no introduction in that regard," said Trent Boult after the seven-wicket win over SRH. "Rohit's doing a fantastic job of late and playing nicely just at the right time. So he's going to play a huge role for us," he added.

BIZARRE EXIT

Kishan's dismissal put pressure on everyone coming in, admits Vettori

K.V.S. GIRI

Coach Daniel Vettori said Ishan Kishan's dismissal against MI only added pressure on SRH. Kishan stunned everyone by walking off, indicating a faint edge, even as none of the MI players appealed and the on-field umpire was about to signal a wide. "Ishan's dismissal was obviously disappointing, and that put pressure on everyone".

Hazlewood's class helps RCB pull off first home win

Krunal and Suyash too play their part after Kohli and Padikkal fire the host past the 200-run mark; Jaiswal and Jurel's cameos not good enough as Royals fall short in a chase for the third straight game

IPL-18

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Royal Challengers Bengaluru's nightmare run at home finally came to an end with an 11-run win over Rajasthan Royals in their IPL clash here on Thursday.

RCB's first win at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium this season came after a worrying three straight defeats at the venue.

The victory was set up by spinners Krunal Pandya and Suyash Sharma, who applied the screws on the RR chase.

In search of 206, RR was sitting pretty at 110 for two in nine overs with opener Yashasvi Jaiswal scoring a 19-ball 49. RCB turned to Krunal, who delivered immediately by prising out Riyan Parag. Bowling in tandem with Suyash, the left-armer ensured runs dried up and the pressure mounted on RR.

Dhruv Jurel (47, 34b, 3x4, 3x6) kept RR in the hunt, until pacer Josh Hazlewood turned up the heat in the 17 and 19th overs.

The Australian took out Jurel in the penultimate over, and followed up by dismissing Jofra Archer for a first-ball duck. Hazlewood gave away just a solitary run in the over. This was after he went for just six in addition to sending back Shimron Hetmyer in the 17th. RR was left with 17 runs to get in the last over, bowled by Yash Dayal. Shubham Dubey holed out off the first ball, leaving RR with no way back.

RCB was put in to bat after skipper Rajat Patidar lost the toss here for a fourth time. The pitch, which has posed questions to batters this season, turned a tad more friendly.

Virat Kohli (70, 42b, 8x4, 2x6) and Devdutt Padikkal (50, 27b, 4x4, 3x6) came good again, taking RCB to a challenging total. The platform was laid in the PowerPlay, when Phil Salt (26, 23b, 4x4) and Kohli brought up the team fifty in 4.4 overs.

Archer stood out as a serious threat, cranking it up with 150 kmph thunderbolts. Kohli flashed hard outside off, and was lucky to see edges fly to the boundary. Spinner Waninidu Hasaranga got rid of Salt, who was dropped by Parag when the batter was on one. Kohli and Padikkal then took center stage with a 95-run second wicket stand. Kohli continued his consistent run, notching up his fifth fifty of the season. The elegant Padikkal recorded his second half-century on the trot.

RCB suffered a blip when it lost Kohli, Padikkal and Patidar in quick succession. Tim David – promoted ahead of Patidar – and Jitesh Sharma gave the innings late momentum on a memorable night for the home team.

Hogging the limelight: Kohli and Padikkal continued their consistent run while Hazlewood kept his cool at the death. K. MURALI KUMAR

SCOREBOARD

ROYAL CHALLENGERS

Phil Salt c Hetmyer b Hasaranga 26 *(23b, 4x4)*, Virat Kohli c Nitish b Archer 70 *(42b, 8x4, 2x6)*, Devdutt Padikkal c Nitish b Sandeep 50 *(27b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Tim David run out 23 *(15b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Rajat Patidar c Jurel b Sandeep 1 *(3b)*, Jitesh Sharma (not out) 20 *(10b, 4x4)*; Extras (lb-1, w-14): 15; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 205.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-61 (Salt, 6.4 overs), 2-156 (Kohli, 15.1), 3-161 (Padikkal, 16.1), 4-163 (Patidar, 16.5), 5-205 (David, 19.6).

ROYALS BOWLING

Archer 4-0-33-1, Farooqi 3-0-30-0, Deshpande 2-0-36-0, Sandeep 4-0-45-2, Hasaranga 4-0-30-1, Parag 3-0-30-0.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Yashasvi Jaiswal c Shepherd b Hazlewood 49 *(19b, 7x4, 3x6)*, Vaibhav Suryavanshi **(Impact Player for Sandeep)** b Bhuvneshwar 16 *(12b, 2x6)*, Nitish Rana c Bhuvneshwar b Krunal 28 *(22b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Riyan Parag c Jitesh b Krunal 22 *(10b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Dhruv Jurel c Jitesh b Hazlewood 47 *(34b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Shimron Hetmyer c Jitesh b Hazlewood 11 *(8b, 1x4)*, Shubham Dubey c Salt b Dayal 12 *(7b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Jofra Archer c Patidar b Hazlewood 0 *(1b)*, Wanindu Hasaranga run out 1 *(3b)*, Tushar Deshpande (not out) 1 *(2b)*, Fazalhaq Farooqi (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (b-1, w-4): 5; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 194.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-52 (Suryavanshi, 4.2), 2-72 (Jaiswal, 5.5), 3-110 (Parag, 9.1), 4-134 (Nitish, 13.3), 5-162 (Hetmyer, 16.3), 6-189 (Jurel, 18.3), 7-189 (Archer, 18.4), 8-189 (Dubey, 19.1), 9-191 (Hasaranga, 19.3).

RCB BOWLING

Bhuvneshwar 4-0-50-1, Dayal 3-0-33-1, Hazlewood 4-0-33-4, Shepherd 1-0-15-0, Suyash **(Impact Player for Padikkal)** 4-0-31-0, Krunal 4-0-31-2.

Toss: Royals.
PoM: Hazlewood.
RCB won by 11 runs.

Next assignment

RCB: April 27 vs DC
Delhi, 7.30 p.m.

RR: April 28 vs GT
Jaipur, 7.30 p.m.

Super Kings, Sunrisers desperate for a victory

In and out? Brevis, right, could replace Rachin in the CSK playing XI. R. RAGU

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

In the battle of the stragglers, bottom-placed Chennai Super Kings will host Sunrisers Hyderabad, lying ninth, in a southern derby IPL league fixture at the MAC Stadium on Friday.

Both outfits have had a forgettable season so far, with two wins out of eight, and the visitor is barely ahead on net run rate.

The two former champions need to win all their remaining six games to have even an outside chance of reaching the playoffs.

The batting, particularly the lack of runs from the top-order, is an area of concern for both teams.

CSK has made numerous changes to its starting line-up this year, and that trend may continue on Friday as well. The form of Rachin Ravindra has been erratic and Dewald Brevis could get a look in – almost a last roll of the dice.

Despite half-centuries from Shivam Dube and Ravindra Jadeja against Mumbai Indians, the inability to hit boundaries in the middle-overs persists as a pain point for the five-time champion. R. Ashwin could hold the key for the Men in Yellow, considering Sunrisers have three left-handed batters – Abhishek Sharma, Travis Head and Ishan Kishan – in the top-order.

The visitors' one-dimensional approach of trying to blast every ball into the stratosphere hasn't worked. The challenge for Pat Cummins' men now is to temper their aggression, especially on tricky pitches like the one they are expected to encounter here.

CSK has never lost to SRH at Chepauk and would want to keep the record intact as it seeks its second win on home soil and looks to salvage something from the season.

Today's match

Chennai, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Played: 21

CSK 15 | SRH 6

PREVIOUS MEETING

CSK won by **78 runs**, 2024

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans	8	6	2	12	1.104
Delhi Capitals	8	6	2	12	0.657
Royal Challengers	9	6	3	12	0.482
Mumbai Indians	9	5	4	10	0.673
Punjab Kings	8	5	3	10	0.177
Lucknow Super Giants	9	5	4	10	-0.054
Kolkata Knight Riders	8	3	5	6	0.212
Rajasthan Royals	9	2	7	4	-0.625
Sunrisers Hyderabad	8	2	6	4	-1.361
Chennai Super Kings	8	2	6	4	-1.392

* Till the RCB-RR match on April 24

Sunrisers will be banking on Klaasen to come good again. K.V.S. GIRI.

Fleming says CSK not laying down arms yet

Sankar Narayanan E.H.
CHENNAI

What are Chennai Super Kings' plans for IPL 2025 and beyond?

Head coach Stephen Fleming emphasised that CSK has not given up on the season yet and will take inspiration from what Royal Challengers Bengaluru did last year to qualify for the playoffs.

"Well, we are still hopeful of winning six out of six. Some will giggle at that, but RCB set a blueprint for that the year before," Fleming said ahead of CSK's match against Sunrisers Hyderabad at the MAC Stadium.

"But we're also aware that if it doesn't work out, we've got to make the most of what has been a poor season. There won't be a wasted game or a wasted opportunity in the next few weeks. And the players know that as well," Fleming added.

"The work we did when we were in a similar position in the past set us up to win the title the following year. So, we're certainly aware of what needs to be done and how we can go about it."

Will Super Kings, languishing at the bottom of the table, give more opportunities to the youngsters?

"We haven't been neglecting youth. (Ayush) Mhatre looked very good in the last game. It excites us as we have one eye on the future. But it's a balance. It's not all about youth. It's not all about guys being too old.

"You've just got to make sure that the right temperament is in the player. And I'm not worried about how old they are," the coach added.

Training hard: CSK's Rasheed and Rachin during the practice session on Thursday. R. RAGU

INBRIEF

Alcaraz withdraws from Madrid Open with injury

World No. 3 Carlos Alcaraz withdrew from the Madrid Open on Thursday with a thigh injury, in a blow for his French Open title defence preparations. The Spaniard, a four-time Grand Slam winner, sustained the problem during his Barcelona Open final defeat last Sunday by Holger Rune. "I did everything that was in my hands but it didn't improve a lot over the (last few) days," said Alcaraz.

Five more Indians in Asian under-15 boxing semifinals

Five more Indian boxers, including two girls, advanced to the semifinals of the Asian U-15 Championships in Amman, Jordan, on Wednesday. Six Indians had made their way into the last four on Tuesday.

The results (quarterfinals): Boys: 55kg: Nelson Khwairakpam bt Wang Sheng-Yang (Tpe); **61kg:** Abhijeet bt Mukhammad Burkhanov (Kgz); **64kg:** Lakshay Phogat bt Laith Ajailat (Jor).
Girls: 52kg: Princi bt Yeva Kubanova (Ukr); **55kg:** Samruddhi Satish Shinde bt Kseniia Savina (Ukr).

Divya clinches 25m sports pistol gold medal

S. Divya beat Riya Thatte 31-28 for the 25m sports pistol gold in the 23rd Kumar Surendra Singh shooting championships in Bhopal on Thursday.

The results: 25m sports pistol: Women: 1. T.S.Divya 31 (586); 2. Riya Thatte 28 (581); 3. Arshdeep Kaur 23 (578).
Juniors: 1. Naamya Kapoor 34 (570); 2. Tejaswani 33 (572); 3. Prisha Gupta 30 (569).

Real's Camavinga set to miss rest of season with injury

Real Madrid midfielder Eduardo Camavinga is set to miss the rest of the season after he was diagnosed with a groin injury on Thursday. The French international sustained the injury during Real Madrid's 1-0 win over Getafe in *LaLiga* on Wednesday. Spanish media reported that Camavinga will miss the Copa del Rey final on Saturday against rivals Barcelona, as well as Madrid's final five league games.

CITY ROUND-UP

Viaan stars for DPS South

Viaan Joshi smashed 133 as DPS South beat FUCC by 27 runs in the Tiger Cup U-16 cricket tournament here on Thursday.

The scores:

DPS South 215/4 in 28 overs (Viaan Joshi 133) bt FUCC 188/6 in 28 Overs (Avaneesh 63, Aryansinh Chavda 34, Aditya Jha 34, Chirag Harsha 25).

CBT 103 in 28 overs (Rithvik Kulasekar 28, Gokul Sai Shashank 3/17, Arush Jain 3/25) lost to Kreeda Kshetra 107/2 in 12 overs (Hyderali Sayyed 44, Kushal Javaji 46).

Boot Camp 194/3 in 26 overs (M. Tanshh Krishna 76, Chavanth Gowda 67, Punith 3/32) bt DPS East 180/7 in 25.4 overs (Abhinav Kulkarni 49, Akshaj Kathuria 40, Shahan Shadab 39, Krishna Kumar 27).

Six Cricket Academy 148/5 in 19 overs (Saad Rayyan Khan 42, Om Agarwalla 26, Rahul Jena 3/29) bt RKO3 91/3 in 19 overs.

BTM FC edges Jawahar Union

BTM FC defeated Jawahar Union FC 2-1 in the BDFA A-div football league championship here on Thursday.

The results:

BTM FC 2 (Aayush David Koshy 52, Nakshatra Jain 55) bt Jawahar Union FC 1 (R. Allan Paul 68); Income Tax FC 3 (Thomas Jacob 40, Mang Cha Khong Sai 59, M. Pandyan 90) bt Vijayanagara 0.

Big win for Hawks United

Hawks United FC crushed BNFC 4-0 in a KSFA C-div football league championship outing here on Thursday.

The results:

Hawks United FC bt BNFC 4-0; La Esparanza FC drew with Undisputed FC 1-1; Stadium FC drew with Kickstart FC 1-1; FC Mangalore bt Agniputhra FC 2-0.

LIVE TELECAST

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday)

Kadur headlines APRC races

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Reigning National champion Karna Kadur (co-driver Musa Sherif) heads a 21-strong FIA Asia Pacific Rally Championship in the three-day event that is part of the Indu Chandhok Memorial 48th South India Rally to be run in and around the Madras International Circuit (MIC), Sriperumbudur, from April 25 to 27.

The grid will feature a Hyundai i20 and Maruti Suzuki Fronx for the first time. Also running concurrently would be the first round of the Blueband FMSCI National Rally Championship that has attracted 52 entries, including those competing in the APRC segment.

A new class, the INRC 3T for turbocharged cars, will be making its debut in the championship.

The chairman of the event Vicky Chandhok said: "We are thrilled that the APRC segment has attracted 21 entries and 54 in all, including the INRC."

Dalilah welcomes advent of Grand Slam Track

Former Olympic champion and World record-holder in the women's 400m hurdles says athletes should be compensated for what they do

ATHLETICS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

The Grand Slam Track, a professional track and field league, intends to boost the profile of the sport.

The event, the brainchild of former sprinter Michael Johnson, offers prize money substantially greater than what athletes receive in the Diamond League.

TCS 10K Bengaluru International Event Ambassador and two-time Olympic gold medallist Dalilah Muhammad welcomed the advent of the Grand Slam Track, stating that athletes are justified in pursuing financial stability.

"It is really beneficial. Athletes should be compensated for what they do. There are very few athletes who are truly making a living just from running alone, and being able to sustain themselves over time.

Praiseworthy: Dalilah says events like the Grand Slam Track give athletes more opportunities. SUDHAKARA JAIN

"Some athletes can only make money from meets such as the Diamond Leagues.

"So it is extremely important that events like the Grand Slam Track give athletes more opportunities. We do have the Diamond League, but that is not enough and we need more," Dalilah said in a media interaction here on Thursday.

Dalilah had a breakout year in 2019, when the American broke the 400m women's hurdles World record at the USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships with a time of 52.20s.

A couple of years later, Dalilah and Sydney McLaughlin went head-to-head in a dramatic showdown at the Tokyo Olympics.

Both Dalilah and Sydney went under the World record, but it was the former who claimed gold.

Lauds Neeraj's feat

At Tokyo, Dalilah witnessed Neeraj Chopra clinch the men's javelin and become the first Indian athlete to win an athletics gold medal.

"That was amazing. I remember watching Neeraj in Tokyo, and that was actually my first experience watching him compete. It was honestly phenomenal, and you got to see what it meant for the country, the community and the people," Dalilah said.

Out Of The Blue, a book on BFC's journey, released

Sports Bureau

Out Of The Blue, a book chronicling the rise of Bengaluru Football Club in the Indian Super League, has been released.

Authored by sports writer Sandeep Menon and published by *The Hindu Group*, the book, priced at ₹699, is available in the market.

For more details about the book and availing a special discounted launch price of ₹499, log on to:

https://publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/.

Focus on Pragg as rapid, blitz tournament set to get underway

SUPERBET CHESS

Press Trust of India
WARSAW

Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa will be the cynosure of all eyes as he takes on a strong field sans Magnus Carlsen of Norway in the *Superbet* rapid and blitz tournament, a part of the Grand Chess Tour, that gets underway here on Saturday.

With Aravindh Chithambaram for company, Praggnanandhaa is one of the front runners for the title as the absence of Carlsen, after two triumphs, has thrown the field wide open.

Alireza Firouzja, the Iranian-turned-French and compatriot Maxime Vachier-Lagrave would like to live on the legacy built for French players in the last decade.

While there are only two Indian contestants among the ten players, it remains to be seen who will win the Grand Chess Tour this year – a series of events that award points based on each performance.

The total prize pool of the event is $175000 with an added attraction of being part of the grand prize at the end of the season.

Carlsen's absence stems from his own admission that the classical format no longer excites him.

Praggnanandhaa will be the one to watch out for given his accuracy in speed chess.

For Chithambaram, his foray here happened largely because he did exceedingly well to win the Prague Masters that propelled the organisers to offer him a wild card spot.

Sift Kaur thrilled to see Indian shooting shine on the world stage

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

World record holder Sift Kaur Samra is thrilled with her strong start to the season after winning the World Cup gold in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The 23-year-old 50m rifle three positions shooter, who won the Asian Games gold in Hangzhou, is also happy that Indian shooting was able to assert itself in both World Cups – in Argentina and Peru – perched in the top-three of the medal standings.

"I am glad that we could bring home a lot of medals. To me, Suruchi [Singh] is the real star, as she has been able to win three gold and a bronze at such a young age. At 18, I did not know much about shooting. She is superb," said Sift, as she talked to *The Hindu* on Thursday.

Sift.

After the gold in the first World Cup, Sift missed the final in the second by one point.

"In both places, it was very windy. I was happy that I could handle the challenge and still shoot 590 and 587. Was unlucky to miss the final in Lima," said Sift, happy with the guidance from fellow shooter Akhil Sheoran and the return of her coach, Deepali Deshpande in the national squad.

"These were the first competitions after the Olympics. So, I was happy to perform well. We are having interesting competitions ahead in new places like the Asian Championship in Kazakhstan, and the World Championship in Cairo, where again I do know that it would be windy," said Sift.

The next World Cup will be in Munich, Germany. The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) does have the option of fielding the 'B' team to keep everyone in competitive mode, but there would also be the temptation to capitalise on the Munich experience for the best shooters. "The team for Munich has not been announced yet. We have done very well in Munich in the past, and everyone looks forward to shooting there," said Sift.

She does have the intimidating world record of 469.6 in the finals, from a total of 45 shots, with 15 shots each in kneeling, prone and standing positions. However, the new Olympic format for finals would only have standing position from January next year.

"We are waiting to see how many shots in the finals, and how much would be the timing. It will be good for us, as our shooters are all good in the standing position", she said.

The shooting calendar is set to be a bit more hectic this season, with the introduction of the Shooting League.

"I am very excited about the league. We are always used to fighting for medals. This would be fun and so different. It would also help in popularising the sport. Hope there is a lot of money also for the shooters," added Sift.

Palace holds Arsenal to send Liverpool to the verge of title

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Liverpool is on the brink of winning the Premier League title after Arsenal was held to a 2-2 draw by Crystal Palace on Wednesday. Arne Slot's side was watching in anticipation of an Arsenal defeat that would have secured Liverpool's record-equalling 20th English title.

It didn't get its wish to start the party just yet, but Liverpool looks certain to lift the trophy for the first time since 2020 after Jean-Philippe Mateta's late equaliser for Palace at the Emirates Stadium.

Liverpool is 12 points ahead of second-placed Arsenal, which has just four games left and an inferior goal difference of +34 compared to the leaders' +44.

The Reds, who have five matches remaining, will be assured of matching the 20 titles won by bitter rival Manchester United if they avoid defeat against Tottenham at Anfield on Sunday.

Crucial strike: Mateta celebrates after equalising for Palace against Arsenal. AFP

While the champagne remains on ice for Slot's men, it is only a matter of time before Liverpool finishes its relentless march to the title after Arsenal's third draw in its last four league games.

Jakub Kiwior put Gunners ahead early on but Eberechi Eze equalised for Palace. Leandro Trossard restored Arsenal's advantage before half-time, only for Mateta to come off the bench and bag the leveller with seven minutes left.

Arda Guler struck the only goal as Real Madrid won 1-0 at Getafe on Wednesday to claw back to within four points of LaLiga leader Barcelona.

Juventus conceded its place in Serie A's Champions League positions on Wednesday after falling to a 1-0 defeat at Parma, one of four matches rescheduled from Monday following the death of Pope Francis. Mateo Pellegrino's thumping header on the stroke of half-time was enough for Parma to earn a precious win in its fight for top flight survival and damage Juve's Champions League hopes.

The results: Premier League: Arsenal 2 (Kiwior 3, Trossard 42) drew with Crystal Palace 2 (Eze 27, Mateta 83).

LaLiga: Athletic Bilbao 1 (Williams 5) bt Las Palmas 0; Celta Vigo 3 (Lopez 45, Iglesias 53, Aspas 87-pen) bt Villarreal 0; Alaves 1 (Tenaglia 65) bt Real Sociedad 0; Getafe 0 lost to Real Madrid 1 (Guler 21).

Serie A: Cagliari 1 (Piccoli 7) lost to Fiorentina 2 (Gosens 36, Beltran 48); Genoa 0 lost to Lazio 2 (Castellanos 33, Dia 65); Parma 1 (Pellegrino 45+1) bt Juventus 0; Torino 2 (Adams 39, Dembele 85) bt Udinese 0.

Aryan in Challenger quarterfinals

INDIANS ABROAD

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Aryan Shah continued to assert his game as he beat sixth seed Ergi Kirkin of Turkey 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 in the pre-quarterfinals of the $60,000 Challenger tennis tournament in Abidjan on Thursday.

The 19-year-old Aryan will challenge the third seed Michael Geerts of Belgium in the quarterfinals.

The results: $100,000 Challenger, Gwangju, Korea: Doubles (quarterfinals): Ramkumar Ramanathan & Aoran Wang (Chn) bt Blake Bayldon (Aus) & Reese Stalder (USA) 7-6(4), 7-6(1).
$60,000 Challenger, Abidjan, Ivory Coast: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Aryan Shah bt Ergi Kirkin (Tur) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.
Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Aleksandre Bakshi (Geo) & Prajwal Dev bt Juan Bianchi & Brandon Perez (Ven) 7-5, 6-1.
€54,000 Challenger, Rome: Doubles (quarterfinals): Simone Agostini (Ita) & Kelsey Stevenson (Can) bt Siddhant Banthia & Alexander Donski (Bul) 6-4, 3-6, [11-9]; Pre-quarterfinals: Banthia & Donski bt Federico Arnaboldi (Ita) & Remy Bertola (Sui) 6-3, 6-4.

$30,000 ITF men, Santa Margherita di Pula, Italy: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Nikolas Izquierdo (Esp) & Mark Vervoort (Ned) bt Andrey Chepelev & Chirag Duhan 5-7, 6-3, [10-8].

$100,000 ITF women, Tokyo: Doubles (pre-quarters): Hong Yi Cody Wong (Hkg) & Lin Zhu (Chn) bt Arianne Hartono (Ned) & Prarthana Thombare 3-6, 6-3, [11-9].

$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Pre-quarterfinals: Zeel Desai bt Laura Cilekova (Svk) 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Abigail Rencheli & Hibah Shaikh (USA) bt Tanisha Kashyap & Arabella Koller (Aut) 6-3, 6-4.

$15,000 ITF women, Antalya, Turkey: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Vaishnavi Adkar bt Justina Daniele (Arg) 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles (quarterfinals): Vaishnavi Adkar & India Houghton (USA) bt Sarah Fajmonova (Cze) & Ilay Yoruk (Tur) 6-2, 6-1.

Animesh sets new men's 200m National record

Shaili breaks Anju's 23-year-old long jump meet record; Praveen equals National triple jump mark; Samardeep stuns Tajinderpal to claim the shot put gold; easy for Annu Rani in women's javelin

ATHLETICS

Stan Rayan
KOCHI

Animesh Kujur could not contain himself, leaving out a loud roar of joy and relief at the Maharaja's Stadium here on Thursday.

The 21-year-old from Odisha had just broken the three-year-old 200m National record, clocking an impressive 20.40s, while beating record-holder Amlan Borgohain to the gold.

It was a fantastic evening at the 28th National Federation athletics championships for minutes earlier Tamil Nadu triple jumper Praveen Chithravel had equalled his own National record (17.37m) and also qualified for this September's Tokyo Worlds.

And Asian silver medallist long jumper Shaili Singh proved that she is getting back to her best with a 6.64m effort that saw her break her mentor Anju Bobby George's 23-year-old meet record while beating Asian Games silver medallist Ancy Sojan (6.46m).

"After the fantastic 100m on Monday, I knew something was going to happen in the 200m today," said Animesh.

Fast and fantastic: Animesh's speed came to the fore on Thursday. R.K. NITHIN

Long time coming

"It's been a long time coming. We've got to thank the guys who pushed him, Mani, Raghul and Amlan," said Martin Owens who coaches Animesh at the Odisha Reliance Centre.

Praveen had crossed 17m in Bengaluru last month and prior to the final here he had written '17.20m for my coach Yoandris' behind his chest number and proudly showed it to the world after his big jump.

"I wanted to help my sore heel recover, so I stopped after three rounds," said Praveen. Asian champion Abdulla Aboobacker took the silver (16.99m).

Robert Bobby George had expected Shaili to jump around 6.75m today and though she could not go that far, the 21-year-old produced her best jump in nearly two years.

Meanwhile, Samardeep Gill (19.34m) shocked Asian Games shot put champion Tajinderpal Singh Toor (18.77) while another Asiad winner Annu Rani was not at her best but won the women's javelin title comfortably.

The results (winners only):
200m: Animesh Kujur (Odi) 20.40s (NR, Old: 20.52, Amlan Borgohain, 2022); **800m:** Anu Kumar (Utk) 1:47.78s; **5,000m:** Abhishek Pal (Rly) 13:40.59s.
Triple jump: Praveen Chithravel (JSW) 17.37m (equalled own National record, old meet record 16.99m, Eldhose Paul, 2022); **shot put:** Samardeep Singh Gill (MP) 19.34m; **decathlon:** Tejaswin Shankar (Del) 7603 points (MR, Old: 7502, Jora Singh, 2006).
Women: 200m: Nithya Gandhe (Tel) 23.68s; **800m:** Twinkle Chaudhary (Reliance) 2:00.71 (MR, Old: 2:01.79, K.M. Chanda, 2023); **5,000m:** Sanjivani Jadhav (Mah) 15:43.42s.
Javelin: Anu Rani (UP) 56.66m; **high jump:** Pooja (Har) 1.84m; **long jump:** Shaili Singh (UP) 6.64m (MR, Old: 6.59, Anju Bobby George, 2002); **hammer throw:** Harshita Sehrawat (Reliance) 61.65m.

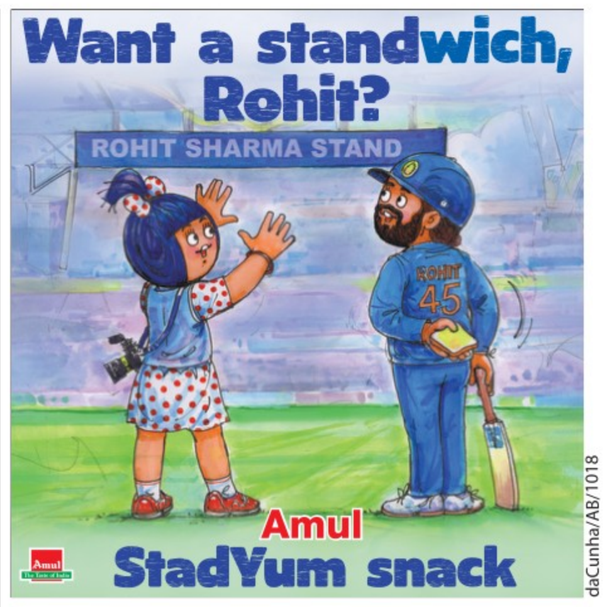
No women's 4x400m team for the Asians

Sports Bureau
KOCHI

With many top quartermilers skipping the National Federation championships here, AFI has decided not to send the women's 4x400m relay team for next month's Asian Championships in Gumi, South Korea.

National Games champion Aishwarya Mishra, this season's fastest 400m runner, and last year's topper Kiran Pahal missed the Federation meet here while Olympian Jyothika Sri Dandi's entry for the National meet here was rejected as she had competed in a domestic meet prior to the Kochi event.

"We are not prepared for the international event (in the women's relay) at the moment," said AFI president Bahadur Singh Sagoo here on Thursday.



NEUFC blanks Mohammedan Sporting, enters quarterfinals; JFC makes it too

SUPER CUP

Sports Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

NorthEast United FC crushed Mohammedan Sporting 6-0 to book its place in the quarterfinals of the Kalinga Super Cup here on Thursday.

M.S. Jithin (third minute) began the scoring early on, before Alaaeddine Ajaraie (18th, 57th and 92nd) got into the act.

Nestor Albiach Roger (42) and Guillermo Fernandez Hierro (66) scored the other two goals.

Jithin capitalised on some lacklustre defending from the opposition to smartly volley Albiach Roger's cross from inside the six-yard box and give his side the lead.

Ajaraie doubled the lead in the 18th minute with a calm finish after latching on to a pass from Hierro.

The Highlanders added a third three minutes before the break, when Jithin stole the ball off Mohammedan's attempts to play from the back and squared a simple pass to Albiach, who made no mistake.

Just before the hour mark Ajaraie made it four. A low fizzing cross from Guillermo was directed towards goal by a sliding Thoi Singh only for Subhajit Bhattacharjee to make a smart reflex save.

Unfortunately for him, the rebound fell straight to Ajaraie who slammed it in.

NorthEast added a fifth in the 66th minute, Guillermo finishing smartly after Ajaraie had played a brilliant pass. Ajaraie converted an injury-time penalty to complete the rout.

Jamshedpur FC also made the quarterfinals after a 2-0 win over Hyderabad FC. Siverio off a 39th-minute penalty and Eze in the 64th scored for the winner.

Triple delight: Ajaraie starred in NEU FC's big win. BISWARANJAN ROUT

The results:
NorthEast United FC 6 (Jithin 3, Ajaraie 18, 57, 90+2-pen, Roger 42, Hierro 66) bt Mohammedan Sporting 0.
Jamshedpur FC 2 (Siverio 39-pen, Eze 64) bt Hyderabad 0.

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ■ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ■ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ■ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, BADRINATH.D, S/o N.Devanand, R/at #4306/8, Sri Akshaya Nivas, 1st Cross, 13th Main Road, Subramanya Nagar, Srirampuram, Bangalore North-560021, have changed my name from D.Badhrinath to Badrinath.D vide affidavit dated 23-04-2025 sworn before Notary K.S.Giridhar, Bengaluru.

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

HIRING
GS Faculty & Content Writers
for UPSC CSE
Looking for Teaching & Content Writing Staff for GS Prelims & Mains.
ELIGIBILITY:
1. Appeared atleast 1 UPSC cse interview from 2020 exam to 2024 exam
2. Candidates should possess above 400 marks in GS mains all 4 papers
3. 2024 UPSC CSE interview appeared persons preferable..
Send CV to:
niranjanankilla89@gmail.com

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

ATTENTION!! CLASS 10th, 11th & 12th STUDENTS
CLAT
(COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST)
5 YEARS LAW
FROM NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITIES

PREPARE FOR
CLAT 2026-27
ADMISSIONS OPEN
JAI KUMAR AIR CLAT 2024
LPT CLASS ROOM STUDENT (ID: 30574762)
LAW PREP Tutorial
CLAT Prep at it's Best!
OUR BENGALURU CENTERS
JAYANAGAR VIJAYANAGAR MALLESHWARAM
◆FOUNDATION BATCH 2 Years Program For 10th Pass Students
◆TARGET BATCH 1 Year Program For 11th Pass Students
◆DROPPER'S BATCH 1 Year Program For 12th Pass Students
Ph.: +91 97423 76459
JODHPUR | JAIPUR | PATNA | BHOPAL | LUCKNOW | PRAYAGRAJ | DEHRADUN
MUZAFFARPUR | RANCHI | BENGALURU | DELHI | JABALPUR | KANPUR | GURGAON

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AARTHI, d/o: Pandi, r/o: Flat No: 4232, 23rd Flr, Tower 4, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, Gunjur, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore – 560087. Have Changed my Name as Aarthi Pandi. Affidavit dated on 24/04/25.

I, Varun Penumaka S/O Varaprasad Penumaka R/O 14, Chiguru, 3rd Cross, Ayappa Layout, Munnekolala, Bangalore North, Po: Marathahalli Colony, Dist: Bangalore, Karnataka - 560037, Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Son Namely Felix Penumaka (Aged 2 Years) And He Shall Hereafter Be Known As Enoch Penumaka For All Future Purposes

I, Hitherto Known As Jasmeetha Nergi Dinakaran W/O Dominic Francis Hanratty Residing 1111, 23rd Main Road A Cross, Hsr Layout Sector 2, H S R Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560102, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Jasmeetha Nergi Hanratty For All Future Purposes

CHANGE OF NAME

I, FREEDA FATIMA.M. (Old Name), aged about 45 years, W/o. J.AROKIANATHAN, Daughter of R.M.SELVARAJ, RESIDING AT NO.60, 7TH-A-CROSS, ROSE GARDEN, NEELASANDRA, BENGALURU SOUTH, BENGALURU-560047, KARNATAKA, declare that I have changed my name from **FREEDA FATIMA.M.** (Old Name) to **ROOPA.S.** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **ROOPA.S.** (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit Reg. No. 153, Book-1, Page : 34, dated : 22/04/2025, before Notary **C.V.EARAPPA** at BENGALURU.

LOST & FOUND

I , GARIMA Lal, have lost my Original 10th Marksheet & Pass Certificate (ICSE) while House Shifting in Bangalore. I passed in the year 2004 from Ruchika High School, Bhubaneswar (Odisha). bearing Index Number-T/1314/011. If Found please contact - 9008975755

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE Ist ADDITIONAL SENIOR CITY CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL AT BENGALURU
MISC P No. 52/2024
Between:
1. Sri. Sri. Ravi Shankar,
S/o. Sri. R.S.V.Rathnam, aged about 68 years, R/a. Panchagiri Ashram, Uttarahalli Hobli,Bangalore South Taluk
2. Smt. Bhanumathi Narasimhan,
W/o. Sri.Narasimhan, aged about 67 years, R/a. Panchagiri Ashram, (VVMP), Udapalya Village, Uttarahalli Hobli,Bangalore South Taluk
...Petitioners
AND:
1. Smt. Akkayamma,
Since dead by her LR's
1(a) Sri.Ramanna, S/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 71 years.
1(b) Smt.Vasanthamma, D/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 66 years.
1(c) Sri.Venkataramu, S/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 63 years.
1(d) Smt.Muniyamma, D/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 59 years.
1(e) Sri.Nagappa, S/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 56 years.
1(f) Smt.Hanumakka, D/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 42 years.
1(g) Sri.Munivenkatappa, S/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 39 years.
1(h) Sri.Krishna, S/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 36 years
1(a) to 1(h) are residing at Kaggalipura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk.
2. Sri.G.S.Gangadhara, S/o Sri. Gangappa, aged about major, Occupation - Agriculturist, R/a. Dodda Kallasandra Village,Kanakapura Road, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk.
3. Smt.Ramakka, W/o Late Doddnarayanappa, Aged about Major, R/a. No.10, 1st Cross, Padarayanapura, Bangalore ...Respondents
Summons to Respondent No.1(a), 1(d) and Respondent No.3 Under Order V Rule 20(1a) of the code of Civil Procedure, 1908
1(a) Sri.Ramanna, S/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 71 years. R/a. Kaggalipura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk
1 (d) Smt.Muniyamma, D/o Late Akkayamma, aged about 59 years
R/a. Kaggalipura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk
3. Smt.Ramakka, W/o Late Doddnarayanappa, aged about Major, R/a. No.10, 1st Cross, Padarayanapura, Bangalore
Whereas, the Petitioners had filed a miscellaneous petition against the Respondents vide Misc P. No. 52/2024 to set- aside the order dated 08.01.2013 and Decree dated 21.01.2013 by the Hon'ble Court in O.S. No.611/2000. Hence, you are hereby summoned to appear in person or through pleader on **08.07.2025 about 11.00 a.m,** before the Ist Additional Senior Civil Judge Bengaluru Rural at Bengaluru to answer to all material questions in relation to the above case, failing which the matter will be heard and decided by placing you as Ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this day of 21st day of April 2025. **By order of the Court**
***Sd/-* Chief Ministerial Officer**
Senior Civil Judge Court,
Bengaluru Rural Dist, Bengaluru
Advocate for Petitioners:
Dr. M. Sunil Sastry

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Stressed Assets Management Branch, (SAMB) Bengaluru

Authorized Officer's Details:
Name: Sri. Krishnamurthy C.
E-mail Id: sbi.04209@sbi.co.in
Mobile No: 8008572034
Land Line No. (Office): 080-25943484

Address of the Branch: 2nd Floor, Office Complex Building, SBI LHO Campus, No. 65, St. Mark's Road, Bengaluru -560 001
Contact: Sri Prashanth Varma - Mb: 9620432064
Telephone: 080 -25943480,
E-mail Id: sbi.04209@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX –II A & IVA
[See proviso to Rule 6(2) & 8(6)]
E AUCTION SALE ON 16.05.2025

Sale of Properties (Movables & Immovable Assets) Charged/Hypothecated/Mortgaged to the Bank under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Provison to Rule 6(2), 8(6) And 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

The undersigned as Authorised Officer of State Bank of India has taken symbolic possession of property under section 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and the Borrower– **M/s Shankar Mall & M/s Shankar Rice Industries** and Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular that the below described properties hypothecated/mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis, on **16.05.2025** for recovery of **Rs.128,85,47,551/-** (Rupees One hundred Twenty Eight Crore Eighty Five Lakhs Forty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Fifty One Only) as on 16.01.2025 and further interest at contractual rate from 17.01.2025 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc., due to the State Bank of India and Canara bank, Secured Creditor, from Borrower, **M/s.** Shankar Mall & M/s Shankar Rice Industries, 4309/32, Sira Road, Sira Gate, Tumkur-572101, **AND** Guarantors/Mortgagor,**(1) T K Nagarajasetty** (Partner), S/o G B Krishnaiah. Residing at # 89, 1st Cross, J C ROAD, Vinayaka nagar, Someswarapuram, Tumkur, Karnataka-572102, **(2) T K Ramesh babu** (Partner) S/o Krishnasetty G B. No. 1 Isiri Vasavi Nagar Behind Mahaveera Jaina Temple, oppAnikethan Mandira Sira Gate, Tumkur, Karnataka-572101 **(3) G N Vinod** (Partner) S/o T K Nagaraja settee. Tulasi 2nd main 1st cross, opp DC BunglowSiragateVasavinagar, Tumkur, Karnataka-572106, **(4) G N Vivek** (Partner) S/o T K Nagarajashetty. #89, 1st Cross, J C ROAD, Vinayaka nagar, Someswarapuram, Tumkur, Karnataka-572102 **(5) K S Shankar** (Partner) S/O Satyanarayana Nanjundashetty Kadaba. Nanjundeshwara Nilya, C S I Layout, 2nd Cross, Tumkur, Karnataka-572102. **Further Tumkur Merchant Credit co-operative limited has claimed 2nd charge on the Shankar mall assets for the outstanding balance of Rs. 13,00,00,000/- (Rupees thirteen Crores) as on 31.03.2025.**
The Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Bid Increment amount, Time & Date of e-Auction and last date for submission of EMD along with KYC documentsfor the movable & immovable assets will be as under:

S. No.	Reserve Price (below which the property will not be sold)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Bid increment amount	Time & Date of e-Auction	Last date for submission of EMD along with KYC Documents
1	Rs 106,00,00,000/-	Rs.10,60,00,000/-	Rs.10,00,000/-	From 11.30 A.M. to 4.00 P.M. On 16.05.2025	15.05.2025 up to 4.00 p.m.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTIES
Tender No: - SBIN400033542008
(Land is in the name of M/S Shankar rice Industries and Commercial Complex is in the name of M/s Shankar Mall)
Earlier Schedule 1 : A part of Sy No 4 and 5 of Tumkur Amanikere village and bearing Municipal No 4309/3232 measuring 17185.65 sq ft, situated at Sira Road, Tumkur, out of it watchman shed and rice mill building, godown, Engine room and expeller room, more fully described in the sketch with measurements in the name of Shankar Rice Industries situated by the side of the Sira high road, Tumkur bounded by East: Sira Road, West: Remaining buildings and site of vendors bearing Municipal No. 4309/3232 and buildings of D. Vardhaman and the middle common wall with equal rights, North: Tumkur tank wasteweir Halla, South: Building of D. Vardhaman and the middle common wall with equal rights.
Earlier Schedule 2: A part of Sy No 4 and 5 of Tumkur Amanikere village and bearing Municipal No 4309/3232 measuring 2 acre 8 guntas,i.e, 95832 sq ft situated at Sira Road, Tumkur, out of it boiler room with Chimni, caster oil room, Engine room. Oil tank room, well and vacant site more fully described in the sketch with measurement in the name of Shankar rice Industries situated by the side of the Sira high road, Tumkur bounded by East: Building and site of the purchaser purchased under registered sale deed dated 02.05.83 West: Land of S. P Subba Rao, retired Revenue Inspector, North: Tumkur Tank wasteweir Halla,
South: Property of D. Vardhamana and D Parswanath and the middle common wall with equal rights to the schedule property and D. Vardhaman and D. Parswanath property
Now Combined Schedule 1 and Schedule 2
All that part and parcel of commercial land and Building on schedule 1 and 2 as above situated at Khata no 3809/16, Sy no 4 & 5 of Tumkur Amanikere Village now under Tumkur city Corporation limits bearing khata no 3809/16, PID No 59331 measuring total area 101601 sqft. (G+3 and Terrace floor with RCC steel frame structure building)and bounded by: East by: Sira Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Tumkur Tank Waste Water Halla, South by: Private Property
Reserve Price: Rs.106,00,00,000/-
EMD: Rs.10,60,00,000/-
[Land and building will be sold as single lot]

For further details regarding inspection of the property the intending bidder may contact the Authorised Officer Shri. Krishnamurthy C (AGM& CLO) and Mr. Prashant Verma (Manager &CO) as mentioned above. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the links provided by the Secured Creditors represented by the Authorised Officer, State Bank of India, SAMB, Bengaluru, i.e., (1)https://ebkray.in., (2) www.sbi.co.in
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 23.04.2025
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

NOTIFICATION

No: KPTCL/B16/44953/2023-24 **Date: 23.04.2025**

In pursuance to KPTCL Employment Notification dated 14.10.2024, the Shortlist List of Candidates in the ratio of 1:5 for Endurance Test for the posts of **Junior Station Attendant** and **Junior Powerman** in KPTCL is published in website https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in. The Endurance Test is scheduled to be held from 05.05.2025 to 08.05.2025 at Bengaluru, Bagalkote, Belagavi and Kalaburagi. The candidates can download the Call Letters from 28.04.2025 onwards from KPTCL website https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Director (Admn. & HR), Corporate Office, KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. SEE/Tr(Op)/C-S/EE(O)/AEE-1/F-180(08)/25-26/218-20 Date: 23.04.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal only)

KPTCL invites bid against **Enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(S)/EE(O)/AEE-1/24-25/EPR-15, Call-3, Dated 01.10.2024** for the work of increasing the Vertical Clearance of existing 220kV Hoody-Malur SC Line Between Tower no.16 and Tower no. 22 in Anugraha Layout by providing 3 Nos. of proposed new intermediate towers of 220kV DD+0 Gadag-Bagalkote design tower, 220kV DB/DE+6 NBT NRS-Laggere design Tower in TLM Sub-Division Hoody, Bengaluru, in the Tr(Op) Cirlce-South, Bengaluru.

The Bids will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **25.04.2025.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer Ele,Transmission (Operation) Circle-South, KPTCL, Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengalouru–09. Ph: 080-22386686-85.**

Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru
Short-Term Tender Notice No.: 3/2025-26 Date: 19.04.2025

In the Tender Notice seen above Tender is invited from eligible contractors for total 11 works through KPP Portal under Head of Account: 3054-04-105-0-01-200 District and other Roads Bridges, 3054-03-102-0-01-200 Maintenance of State Highway Bridges, 5054-04-337-0-01-154 State Highways Improvements, 5054-04-337-0-01-154 District and other roads - Improvements, 4059-60-051-0-05-422 Scheduled Caste Student Hostel, 3054-03-337-0-05-200 State Highway Roads Maintenance, related to Sub divisions of Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru District. Details of capabilities to undertaking or having implemented the works (as per Standard Tender Document KW-1 & 4) should be attached. Contractors can be awarded the contract only if they have the minimum eligibilities as mentioned in Act 3. Minimum Approx. Amount Rs. 1.00 lakh and Maximum Approx. Amount Rs. 700.00 lakhs. For Tender to be submitted through KPP Portal for 11 works (Indent No. 18572 (2nd Call), 17052 (2nd Call) on 28.04.2025 Indent No. 20241 (3rd Call), 20727 (3rd Call), 20752 (2nd Call) , 21247, 21244, 21473, 21475 on 29.04.2025, Indent No. 21268 on 02.05.2025, Indent No. 21002 on 12.05.2025) tender should be submitted within 4.30 PM. For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagalur.
DIPR/ckm/No.06/25-26/ksmca/108

KALYAN
JEWELLERS
UP TO 50% OFF
ON MAKING CHARGES*
THIS SEASON
*T&C apply. Limited period offer.
OPEN ON ALL DAYS
FLAGSHIP STORE: BANGALORE - DICKENSON ROAD - PH: 080-25550533 | ALSO AT: KORAMANGALA - PH: 95133 05333 | JAYANAGAR - PH: 080-26647733, 95133 06333 | MALLESHWARAM WEST - PH: 080-23360533
MARATHAHALLI - PH: 080-25400533 | PHOENIX MARKET CITY - PH: 080-49626533 | KAMMANAHALLI - PH: 080-41751647 | HSR LAYOUT - PH: 99005 73633 | BANASHANKARI - CRM NO.: 73490 79433 | RAJAJINAGAR - PH: 76763 64991
KENGERI - CRM NO.: 88846 26033 | HESARAGHATTA ROAD - PH: 93537 02767 | MYSORE: B.N. ROAD - CRM NO.: 95133 09333, PH: 0821-2440533, KALIDASA ROAD - PH: 82960 74293 | HASSAN - CRM NO.: 72593 78633, PH: 08172-264333
FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT US ON TOLL FREE NUMBER: 1800 425 7333 | WWW.KALYANJEWELLERS.NET | FOLLOW US ON | BUY ONLINE @ WWW.CANDERE.COM | FOR INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS, WRITE TO B2BINDIA@KALYANJEWELLERS.NET